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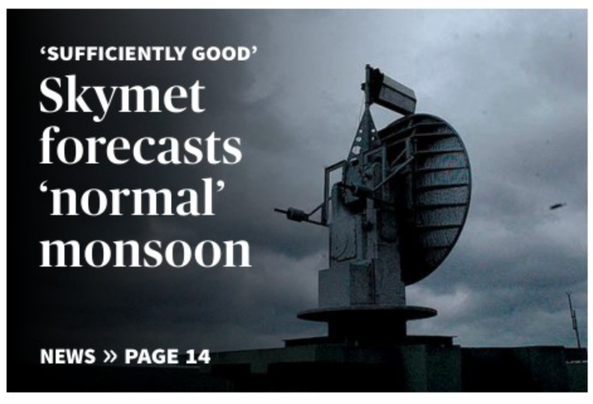
FIR FILED

900 engines missing from Kia plant in A.P.

SOUTH » PAGE 9



'SUFFICIENTLY GOOD'

Skymet forecasts 'normal' monsoon

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Trump announces direct talks with Iran

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RIPPLE EFFECTS

An exodus of expertise in U.S.

Trump's 'assault on science' could lead to a research brain drain

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IPL ACTION

PBKS beats CSK; LSG edges KKR in thriller

SPORT » PAGE 17

NEARBY

Tourists can soon take a guided tour of Vidhana Soudha

BENGALURU

Vidhana Soudha is all set to become a tourist hotspot by next month. The government has approved the Tourism Department's plan to hold guided tours inside for the public. » PAGE 6

A week later, BBMP issues notification for SWM user fee

BENGALURU

A week after it came into effect on April 1, the BBMP finally issued a notification stipulating Solid Waste Management user fee that property owners, of both residential and non-residential properties, need to pay along with their property tax. » PAGE 3

OPPORTUNITIES » PAGE 3

SC pulls up T.N. Governor, sets deadline to clear Bills

Top court slams R.N. Ravi's inaction on 10 re-passed Bills, deems them to have received assent; it cites sense of expediency in Article 200, says Governor should be a 'guide' and not a 'hindrance'

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday slammed Tamil Nadu Governor R.N. Ravi's conduct as "unconstitutional", criticising his prolonged inaction on 10 key Bills. The court noted that he failed to act for months before swiftly referring the Bills to the President, only after they were re-passed by the State Legislature and came under judicial scrutiny.

The top court deemed the 10 Bills to have received assent, declaring President Droupadi Murmu's actions – assenting to only one, rejecting seven, and not considering two – to be void.

It also fixed time limits, of one to three months, for Governors to take action on future Bills.

The court said that a Governor must be a "friend, guide and philosopher" to the State, not a hindrance. "A Governor is envisaged as a sagacious counsellor... What unfolded in the current litigation was quite the opposite," a Bench of Justices J.B. Pardiwala and R. Mahadevan observed.

Justice Pardiwala, who authored the judgment, said that Mr. Ravi had acted as a "roadblock" by delaying action on the Bills sent to him for consent by the Assembly under Article 200 of the Constitution.

The Article gives a Governor three choices: to assent, withhold assent, or reserve the Bills for consideration by the President. A Governor cannot indefinitely delay exercising his or her choice, the court said. "Once a Bill is presented to the Governor, he is under a Constitutional obligation to opt for one of the three choices... The phrase 'as soon as possible' permeates Article 200 with a sense of expediency and does not allow Governors to sit on Bills and exercise pocket veto over them," Justice Pardiwala explained.

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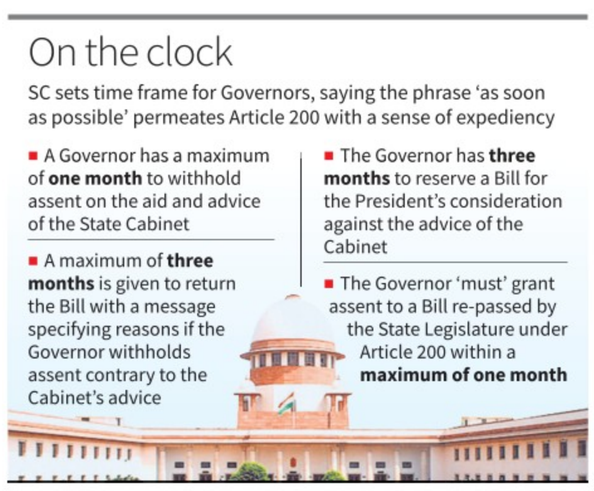
On the clock

SC sets time frame for Governors, saying the phrase 'as soon as possible' permeates Article 200 with a sense of expediency

- A Governor has a maximum of **one month** to withhold assent on the aid and advice of the State Cabinet
- A maximum of **three months** is given to return the Bill with a message specifying reasons if the Governor withholds assent contrary to the Cabinet's advice
- The Governor has **three months** to reserve a Bill for the President's consideration against the advice of the Cabinet
- The Governor 'must' grant assent to a Bill re-passed by the State Legislature under Article 200 within a **maximum of one month**



'Historic' SC verdict is a victory for all State governments: Stalin

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

The Supreme Court judgment on Tuesday, invoking its powers to declare 10 pending Bills withheld by Tamil Nadu Governor R.N. Ravi for President's assent effectively approved, was a huge victory for all State governments in the country, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin said in the Assembly, terming the verdict "historic".

Breaking the 'good news' amidst thumping of desks by members of the DMK and its allies, Mr. Stalin said: "Tamil Nadu struggled to protect the DMK's principles, such as State autonomy and federalism. Tamil Nadu will struggle, Tamil Nadu will win!"

"On behalf of the Tamil Nadu government, the MLAs, and the people of Tamil Nadu who elected us, I thank the Supreme Court for having protected the rights of the State Legislative Assemblies enshrined in our Constitution," Mr. Stalin said.

M.K. Stalin

All political parties represented in the Tamil Nadu Assembly, except the AIADMK and the BJP, welcomed the judgment and lauded the DMK government and the Chief Minister's efforts in this regard.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12

Ruling on T.N. applies to its ongoing case, Kerala tells SC

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Emboldened by the Supreme Court's judgment criticising the Tamil Nadu Governor for delaying action on 10 Bills, neighbouring Kerala told Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna that the ruling should equally apply to its own Governor.

Kerala's case came up for hearing a few minutes after a Bench led by Justice J.B. Pardiwala delivered the judgment in the Tamil Nadu case.

Appearing for Kerala, senior advocate K.K. Venugopal urged the CJI, who expressed reluctance to hear the case on Tuesday, to list the case before Justice Pardiwala's Bench.

The CJI, who is set to retire on May 13, listed the case for mid-May without committing to the request.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12

Slight relief for markets a day after meltdown

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

India's benchmark NSE Nifty recovered 1.7% to 22,535.85 points on Tuesday after tanking more than 3% in the previous session, providing much-needed respite to investors.

The Nifty opened at 22,446.75 points, about 285 points more than the previous close and slipped to an intra day low of 22,270.85 points.

The BSE Sensex rose 1.49% to 74,227.08 points on Tuesday. All Sensex firms, except Power Grid, ended in positive territory.

FULL REPORT ON » PAGE 15

II PU results: Pass percentage drops significantly to 69.16

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The results of II PUC exam-1 for 2024-25 announced on Tuesday, show a significant dip in the pass percentage from last year. While it was 81.15% in 2023-24 it fell 14.78% to 69.16% this year. Of the total 6.88 lakh students who wrote the exam, 4.76 lakh cleared.

Minister for School Education and Literacy Madhu Bangarappa attributed it to strict vigilance, including web-streaming of the entire exam process. Similar measures for class 10 exams in 2023-24 led to a crash in the results.

"Every corner of the examination hall was web-streamed giving no room for malpractice. Introducing stricter vigilant measures could be one of the reasons for the drop in the pass percentage," the Minister said.

"Students who have failed, or those who wish to improve their marks, can take exam 2 and exam 3," he added.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 4
RELATED REPORTS » PAGE 4

China vows to fight U.S. tariffs 'to the end'

Reuters
BEIJING/WASHINGTON

China on Tuesday vowed not to bow to "blackmail" from the United States as a global trade war ignited by U.S. President Donald Trump's sweeping tariffs showed little sign of abating, even as battered stock markets steadied.

The rebuke came after Mr. Trump threatened to ratchet up tariffs on U.S. imports from the world's second-largest economy to more than 100% on Wednesday in response to Beijing's decision to match 'reciprocal' duties Mr. Trump initially unveiled last week.

Chinese blue chips climbed 1% on Tuesday, recouping a fraction of the more than 7% slide on Monday. "The U.S. side's threat to escalate tariffs against China is a mistake on top of a mistake, once again exposing the American side's blackmailing nature," China's Commerce Ministry said on Tuesday.

"If the U.S. insists on having its way, China will fight to the end," the Ministry said.

Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index jumped around 2% after suffering the worst day since 1997 as a result of what the trading hub's leader called "ruthless" tariffs. U.S. stock futures also pointed higher after slumping to the lowest level in more than a year.

The European Union proposed counter-tariffs of its own to Mr. Trump's tariff onslaught that swept up dozens of countries, sent financial markets into a tailspin, and fuelled expectations that the global economy may be headed for recession.

Stock markets found a firmer footing on Tuesday after a gut-wrenching few days for investors, which prompted some business leaders, including those close to Mr. Trump, to urge the President to reverse course.

Chinese blue chips climbed 1%, on Tuesday, after more than 7% slide on Monday. AP

It would be nice to have a crystal ball to see where Test cricket will be in five or 10 years

McGrath calls for Bumrah to manage his workload better going forward, praises the Indian pacer's captaincy in Australia and warns youngsters from trying to replicate his 'unique' action; the 55-year-old also gives his thoughts on India's white-ball dominance and how it can replicate that success in red-ball cricket

GETTY IMAGES

INTERVIEW

Glenn McGrath

S. Prasanna Venkatesan

Founded in 1987 with the help of pace spearhead Dennis Lillee, the MRF Pace Foundation has helped give young aspiring fast bowlers in India world-class coaching and hone their skills. Australian pace-bowling legend Glenn McGrath, who succeeded his compatriot as the foundation's director in 2012, spoke to *The Hindu* about India's Champions Trophy campaign, its white-ball dominance, mentoring young talents, and more.

Excerpts:

It was widely considered that India had a big advantage by playing all of its Champions Trophy matches in Dubai. What's your take on this subject?

India doesn't travel to Pakistan anymore, so the only move was to play its matches in Dubai. It is what it is. I don't think there's an unfair advantage. It's like saying there's an unfair advantage if India plays all its matches in India and if Australia plays all its matches in Australia. It's just the way it is.

How keenly do you keep an eye on Jasprit Bumrah's career?

I take a keen interest in Jasprit and the way he goes. I think he's an incredible bowler, he's unique.

That Australia-India series (the latest Border-Gavaskar Trophy) showed his importance. He was unplayable sometimes and looked like he was going to get a wicket every over. You take Bumrah out of that series, it could probably have been very one-sided. I know the scoreline was 3-1, but if he had been fit to bowl in that second innings in the last Test (in Sydney), you just never know.

The stress he puts on his body to play five Tests in a row is a massive ask. You've got to look after him. He's got to keep strong and fit.

What do you make of Bumrah's captaincy?

He's very intelligent and thinks well. That first Test in Perth, I had a lot of respect for him as a captain. I thought he did a great job. Having both Jasprit and Pat Cummins as captains was unique to that series.

He is a quality bowler. There's no doubt about it. He knows his game so well. But he is a bowler you've got to manage because the amount of stress he puts on his body every ball compared to the other bowlers is different.

Bumrah is making a comeback after a long lay-off. How do you think he should go about his cricket?

He's done it before, he'll know better than anyone. He knows what he has to do. He's a very experienced fast bowler, one of the best in the world.

That said, he's not as young as he used to be. You've got to be smarter about what you do. You've got to work even harder off the field. Jimmy (James) Anderson played till he was 42. It shows that you can do it.

But Jimmy and Jasprit are quite different bowlers. It's going to be interesting to see how Jasprit manages himself and what he does because of how he bowls and the type of bowler he is.

I've always said being a fast bowler is like driving a car. If you don't top it up with fuel, you're going to run out sooner or later. My fuel tank, because I didn't bowl as quickly, was bigger than Jasprit's, which is obviously a lot smaller. He's got to keep topping it up more and more.

A lot of young pacers are getting inspired by Bumrah and trying to copy his bowling action. Is it possible for anyone to be able to replicate what Bumrah does?

There are a couple of things about Jasprit. The short run-up and then the last two steps - he really powers into the crease. He's got a lot of hyperextension (of his elbow), which gives that extra whip. He's got great wrists and just the way he powers through the crease and where he lets the ball go from, everything he does is unique. If you're trying to copy him, I think you're going to struggle.

Bowlers need to find what works for them. Look at someone like Lasith Malinga, it (his bowling action) is just natural. Bumrah is very much the same. When I saw him as a young fellow, he had a big jump out. I think he blew his knee out and when he came back, he had to go straight through the crease. He's just an incredible bowler. He found what worked for him.

If people are copying Bumrah's action, they're going to find it tough because he's unique and completely different from any other bowler out there. Most bowlers need a longer run-up to create that momentum. He finds a way to get it off the last two steps.

But he probably puts more stress on his body than the other bowlers. So, he's found ways to manage it. Unfortunately, not all the time because he has developed injuries now and then. He's a quality bowler, but very unique.

What do you make of India's white-ball dominance, especially in the ICC events, in recent years?

It's the way they've focused on the game. The IPL has a positive impact on one-day cricket. I think they know the one-day game very well and that's why they've done well.

I think back to that World Cup (2023) here, where India went through undefeated (to the final). If you can perform well and have Pat Cummins and the team say that they want to quieten the Indian crowd, then you know you're doing well. It's a challenge for the other teams to come to India and play well.

What do you think India needs to do in red-ball cricket to match its white-ball performance?

There are quality players there. There's no doubt about it. For me, cricket needs India to be strong at the Test level. I think it has got the batting line-up. It has to make sure that its second-tier bowlers around Bumrah are quality and able to manage it.

I think the top three Test teams are Australia, England, and India. Virat Kohli and the boys, they all think Test cricket is still important. They still hold Test cricket in high regard with the respect that it deserves. And hopefully, they can get the formula right.

What do you think of ICC's saliva ban?

I think it's not so much saliva that's the issue. It's if there is sucking on mint or other things, that's the issue. I never sweat much when I played. If I'm trying to shine the ball, where am I getting the moisture from? I would have had to go to Michael Kasprowicz or Brendon Julian, who were just dripping with sweat.

I pick up a cricket ball, I naturally do it. I think there's probably a little bit too much made of that. I have no issues with using saliva on the ball as long as there's nothing else being used first.

How do you see the young prospects coming along from the Pace Foundation camps?

Seeing the group of young bowlers we have, it's funny. Each year they seem to be better and better. I remember when I first came here with Dennis Lillee, you would see some bowlers that you would wonder if they had ever bowled before in their life. I think India now has a far better fast-bowling attack than they had in the past. That's why they went on to become one of the best teams in the world.

There are some good quality young bowlers coming through. Some of them are quite young. We've got a couple of 17-year-olds here. They've still got a long way to really develop their action, their body has to finish hardening up. Their routines, thought processes and adaptability and all – the mental side of the game – they'll learn the more they play.

On the importance of putting in the hard yards...

For a fast bowler, you need to be fit, strong, and mentally tough because we put our bodies through a lot more strain and pain than batters do. Being a fast bowler in India, if you can bowl well here - this is probably the toughest place in the world to be a fast bowler.

I always try to tell the boys that it is hard work. It's tough to get to the top. And when you get to the top as a fast bowler, you have to work twice as hard to stay there. When you have made it, and are getting good money playing IPL, it comes down to attitude as well. You've got to work even harder.

Your Virat Kohli and Jasprit Bumrah, they work twice as hard as anyone else. That's why they are the best in the world. You look at the Australians, the English guys and all the top players in the world – your (Kane) Williamsons – they work twice as hard as everyone else.

What I see is that when a young guy makes it quite quickly, all of a sudden, they've got a heap of money. They think, 'Oh, I have made it!' Suddenly, the work ethic drops. They don't put in the time and effort. Then they struggle and they are gone.

You look at all the best fast bowlers in the history of the game. Their work ethic and attitude have been second to none. If you don't have that work ethic and that attitude where you really do everything possible all the time, you're not going to make it. It's just that as a fast bowler, you need to have that attitude.

On the rise of T20 cricket...

T20 cricket is where the money is. But I hope they still want to play Test cricket. If you're a bowler and you make a name for yourself in Test cricket, you're still going to play T20 cricket. Guys are going to want you on their team.

It is a tough decision for young players. I think for Australia, England and Indian players, the decision's not quite as tough.

For other countries, where they don't have that same security or get paid the same to play for their country, that's where the concern is. There's so much money in the T20 format. It would be nice to have a crystal ball to see where Test cricket will be in five or ten years. I hope it's still alive and well, and going strong.

BWSSB proposes OTS scheme to recover ₹701 cr. arrears in city

Yemen S.
BENGALURU

According to BWSSB data, the highest pending arrears, excluding interest and penalties, are by domestic users, standing at ₹185.48 crore. FILE PHOTO

The Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) is planning to implement a one-time settlement (OTS) scheme to recover pending arrears of ₹701.72 crore in Bengaluru. This initiative aims to alleviate the financial strain on the BWSSB.

The OTS scheme proposes waiving off interest and penalty on overdue amounts, allowing 4,90,207 consumers, including the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), government of Karnataka, Central government, industries, statutory bodies and others to clear their principal dues.

BWSSB Chairman V. Ram Prasath Manohar told *The Hindu*, "The arrears as on April 7 stood at ₹439.03 crore, with penalty and interest adding up to ₹262.68 crore. The current liabilities stand at ₹701.72 crore. We have decided to waive off the interest and penalty, and submitted a proposal to the government. The final decision will be made by the Finance Department, and we hope to recover the liabilities in the coming months."

According to data provided by the BWSSB, the highest pending arrears, excluding interest and penalties, is by domestic users, standing at ₹185.48 crore.

Pending arrears of the government of Karnataka amount to ₹56.04 crore, the Central government is ₹22.92 crore, BBMP is ₹7.63 crore, and non-domestic consumers is ₹78.35 crore.

"The OTS scheme will only increase our source of income and help us sustain ourselves financially, which is for the welfare of the consumers," Mr. Manohar added.

This announcement comes after Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar hinted that Bengaluru may see a marginal increase in water tariff, as the Karnataka government is considering a hike of 1 paise.

AAI team inspects two sites for second airport

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Officials from the Airports Authority of India (AAI) on Tuesday inspected two of the three sites identified for Bengaluru's proposed second greenfield international airport. While the AAI team inspected the two sites on Kanakapura Road, it will visit the third site on the Nelamangala-Kunigal Road on Wednesday. Following the inspection, the officials held a discussion with Infrastructure Development Minister M.B. Patil.

During the meeting, a live presentation was given to the AAI team, highlighting the need for a second airport in Bengaluru, the growing industrial demand, and the benefits to civilian air traffic. Mr. Patil emphasised that the government is committed to ensuring maximum transparency in finalising the site for the new airport. He added that the government intends to finalise the airport location based on the specific requirements of Bengaluru, and the final decision will be taken based on the report and recommendations from AAI.

The AAI team comprised Vikram Singam, general manager; K. Srinivas Rao, joint general manager; Manuj Bharadwaj, assistant general manager; along with Sachidanand, senior manager; managers Santosh Kumar Bharathi and Amaan Chhipa from the AAI headquarters.

Kerala native killed in hit-and-run in Whitefield

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 25-year-old man from Kerala died on the spot after a hit-and-run accident in the Whitefield Traffic Police limits on Monday night. The deceased, identified as Abubakar Jayan, was working with an insurance company in the city. According to the police, the incident took place on Varthur-Gunjur Road late at night, when an unidentified vehicle reportedly hit his motorcycle and fled the scene.

Police have registered a case and investigations are under way.

उत्तर पश्चिम रेलवे

ई–निविदा आमन्त्रण सूचना

मंडल रेल प्रबन्धक, गति शक्ति, उत्तर पश्चिम रेलवे, जोधपुर द्वारा भारत के राष्ट्रपति के लिये एवं उनकी ओर से ई–निविदा के माध्यम से प्रचलित नियमों के अन्तर्गत निर्धारित प्रपत्रो में निविदा निम्न कार्यों के लिए क्रमानुसार आमंत्रित की जाती है: **ई–निविदा सूचना सं. 2025-26:** 06, **कार्य का नाम व स्थान:** Provision of new FOB at Jalsu, Gachipura, Marwar Lohwat and Deshnok Station, **अनुमानित लागत रुपये:** ₹132983329.10, **बयाने की राशि रुपये:** ₹814900.00, निविदा सूचना संख्या GSU-06 of 2025-26 निविदा प्रस्तुत करने की तिथि 28.04.2025 को 15.00 बजे तक है। वेबसाईट का विवरण जहाँ पर ई–निविदा देखी व भरी जा सकती है www.ireps.gov.in

393-PS/25

हमें /NWRailways NWRailways_ पर फॉलो करें

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the Pubic that, our client **SRI. GAGANESH REDDY NARAYANA REDDY S/o. Sri. C.R Narayana Reddy** is intending to purchase all that piece and parcel of the agriculture land bearing Survey No.19 (Old Sy.No.19/1, earlier Sy.No.19) measuring 2 Acres, situated at Hagadur Village, K.R Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk from its Owners **Sri. B. MUTHANNA S/o. late. Byrappa and his family members.**

Therefore any person/s having any objection, claim, interest, dispute for the above intended sale transaction, in respect of the above said property or part thereof, by way of Sale, Exchange, Gift, Mortgage, Charge, Trust, Lease, Sub-Lease, Tenancy, Inheritance, Possession, Lien or otherwise, however are hereby make the same known in writing together with supporting documents to the undersigned within the time period of **15 Days** of the publication hereof failing which the claim of such person(s) will deemed to have been waived and/or abandoned.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL of the agriculture land bearing **Survey No.19 (Old Sy.No.19/1, earlier Sy.No.19)** measuring **2 Acres,** situated at **Hagadur Village, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk,** and bounded on the:

East by : Property belongs to Narayanappa, West by : Government road, North by : Property belongs to Ramaswamy & Munivenkatappa (Old Sy.No.19/2), South by : Remaining portion of the same Survey Number & Govt. Nala.

Mallika & Associates,
Advocates,
No. 430, DSK Building, 2nd Floor, Varthur Road, Ramagondanahalli, Opp. to DNR Corp Atmosphere Apartment, Whitecield, Bangalore – 560066. Ph.No.+91-8496986344.

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E-Mail : blr.arm@ktkbank.com
Website : www.karnatakabank.com
CIN : L85110KA1924PLC001128

POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, the Authorised Officer of **Karnataka Bank Limited,** under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated **10.01.2025** calling upon the borrower/mortgagors/guarantors– **(1) Mr. Puttaswamy** S/o Mr. Vasati Puttegowda, **(2) Mrs. G Rathnamma** W/o Mr. Puttaswamy, **Both are addressed at :** No.611 EWS 6th Main, Gandhinagar, Kengeri Upanagara, Bengaluru-560060, to repay an aggregate amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs.15,08,315.83 [Rupees Fifteen Lakh Eight Thousand Three Hundred Fifteen And Paisa Eighty Three Only] under TL A/c No.9027001600031701 along with future interest from 20.12.2024** within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower/ guarantors/mortgagors having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower/ guarantors/ mortgagors and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him under Section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on this **04th day of April, 2025.**

The borrowers/ guarantors/mortgagors in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property mentioned herein below and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of **Karnataka Bank Ltd., Bengaluru – Kengeri Satellite Town Branch,** for an aggregate amount of **Rs.15,15,719.83 [Rupees Fifteen Lakh Fifteen Thousand Seven Hundred Nineteen And Paisa Eighty Three Only] under TL A/c No.9027001600031701 along with future interest from 20.03.2025, plus costs.**

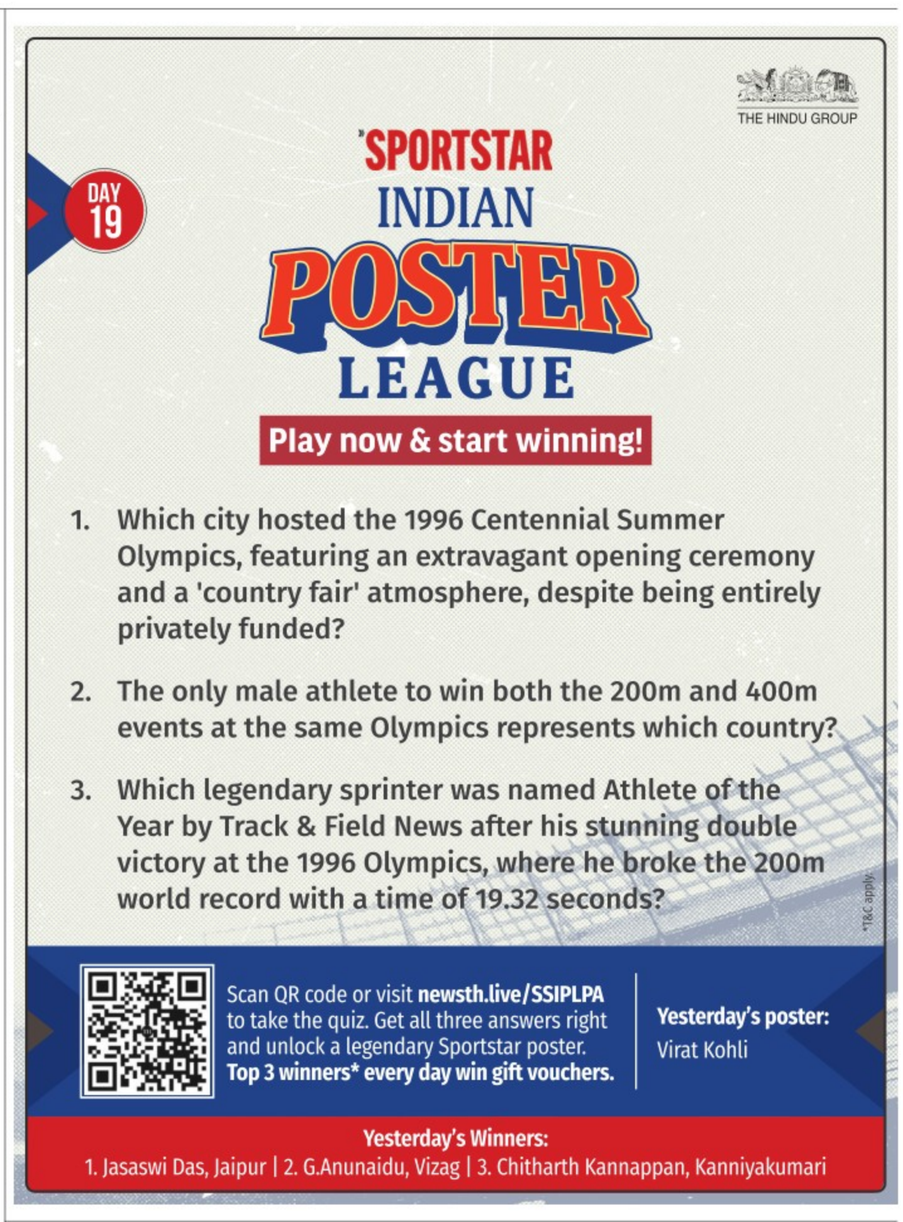
[Your attention is invited to provisions of Sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.]

Description of the Immovable Property

All that piece and parcel of residential house property bearing House No.611, EWS in 2nd Stage, Kengeri Satellite Town, Gandhinagara, Bengaluru-560060 measuring **East to West 26 ft and North to South 18 ft** totally admeasuring 468.00 sq ft belonging to **Mr. Putaswamy. Boundaries of property as per Document: East by:** Road, **West by:** Conservancy, **North by:** House No.610, **South by:** House No.612.

Place: Bengaluru
Date: 04.04.2025

Sd/- Assistant General Manager & Authorised Officer For Karnataka Bank Ltd.,



इंडियन बैंक Indian Bank
इलाहाबाद ALLAHABAD

Zonal Office, 4th Floor, East Wing
Raheja Towers, No. 26, 27,
M G Road, BANGALORE - 560 001
PH: 080-22958899

Notice Inviting Offers

Indian Bank, Zonal Office, Bengaluru invites sealed offers in 2 bid system (Technical & Financial Bid) from owners of office premises willing to offer premises on lease basis, measuring about 1300 to 1400 sq. ft. Carpet Area for Branch premises with ATM facility preferably in Ground Floor with parking facility for 15 years in the following centre.

HALASURU

For eligibility criteria, application form, and other details, please refer to website **https://www.indianbank.in/tender**

Last date: 23.04.2025 **Sd/- ZONAL MANAGER**

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS CIRCLE : SUNDARGARH
AT/PO-SANKARA, SUNDARGARH-770020, E-mail address-serw_sundargarh@yahoo.com

No.Tender Online – RWCCESNG-02 of 2025-26, Letter No.891 /Dtd.04.04.2025

e-Procurement NOTICE

1. Type of the Work : **Building**
2. Class of Contractor : As specified in the column-6 of the Annexure
3. Time of Completion : As specified in the column-5 of the Annexure
4. Detail Projects : As per Annexure attached
5. Estimated Cost : As specified in the column-4 of the Annexure
6. Other details:

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding From	To	Last Date & Time of Seeking Tender Clarification	Date & Time of Opening of tender Technical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sundargarh	RWCCESNG-02 of 2025-26	11.04.2025 11:00 AM	25.04.2025 5:00 PM	24.04.2025 5:00 PM	28.04.2025 11:00 AM	Will be intimated separately

● Further details can be seen from the website **www.tendersodisha.gov.in**

O-16: **Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sundargarh.**
OIPR-25133/11/0040/2425

Office of the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, CAMPA, Jharkhand, Ranchi
Van Bhawan, Doranda-834002
e-mail : apccf-campa@gov.in, Phone : 0651-2481466 (O)

NOTICE

The last date of submission of bids under RFP No. 02/2025 for **"Selection of a firm for mapping the entire life cycle of potential carbon projects from the Forestry Sector and other Nature Based Solutions in the state of Jharkhand in the revenue sharing model"**, is hereby, extended.

The new date will be announced at the time of uploading responses to the pre-bid query.

Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
CAMPA, Jharkhand, Ranchi

PR 349913 Forest, Environment and Climate Changes(25-26)D

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमंडल, चाईबासा
email- rwdchaibasa64@gmail.com

पत्रांक :– **आवश्यक सूचना।** दिनांक :–

एतद् द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि इस कार्यालय के **पत्रांक– 35 (अनु0) दिनांक– 04.01.2025** द्वारा आमंत्रित ई0 निविदा सं0– **12/2024-25/RWD/EE/CHAIBASA** दिनांक– 04.01.2025 जिसका **PR No-349220 West Singhbhum (24-25): D** में प्रकाशित ई0 निविदा को अपरिहार्य कारणों से रद्द किया जाता है।

विश्वासभाजन,
ह0/–
कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, चाईबासा

PR 349936 West Singhbhum(25-26)#D

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public hereby notified that my client **Mrs. Nalini Jagadeesh Ankalgi** wife of Mr. Jagadeesh, residing at No.3, 3rd Main Road, 14th 'A' Cross, Vyalikaval, Malleshwaram, Bangalore - 560 003 is the absolute owner and is in peaceful possession and enjoyment of the Property mentioned below in the Schedule. She has lost/misplaced the Original Sale Deed dated 20-06-2002, duly registered as Document No.1120/2002-03, Book I, Stored in CD No.GNSR7, registered in the office of the Sub-registrar, Gandhinagar, Bangalore, pertaining to the Schedule Property. In this connection, an E-Complaint has also been lodged on 08-04-2025 vide Lost Report No. 1556503/2025. I hereby call upon the General public if anyone is in custody or possession of the same or otherwise found the above said document, kindly handover to undersigned immediately/within **7 days** and they may be suitably awarded and also I further bring into the notice of the general public that in case anyone dealing with the Schedule Property on the basis of the above said original document, it shall not be binding on my client and the same will be an offence and they are liable to punish under the Criminal and Civil Law.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the residential property bearing Corporation No.3 (Old No.131), situated at 14th "A" Cross, Vyalikaval, Bengaluru-560 003, measuring East to West 30-0 feet and North to South 45 feet in all measuring 1350 square feet together with residential building constructed thereon consisting of Ground, First and Second Floor and bounded on the; **East by:** Property bearing No.130; **West by:** Property bearing No.132; **North by:** Road; **South by:** Property bearing No.148.

ADDRESS OF ADVOCATE:
Mr. KRISHNAMURTHY P, Advocate,
No.11, 1st Floor, Meera Nivas, North Park Road, Seshadripuram, Bangalore-560 020. Mob: **9740718436**

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the public at large that Our client holds the absolute ownership and is in full possession and enjoyment of the MIG residential property bearing B.D.A. No.MR-45 located in Nandini Layout developed by Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) and more fully described in the Schedule hereunder and hereinafter referred to as the "Schedule Property" ever since the purchase of the Schedule Property on 28/02/2005. Further, Our Client states that all original title documents of the Schedule Property including the original allotment letter, original sale deed executed in favour of the then allottee, original sale deed, original possession letter are accidentally lost or misplaced in respect of which the Lost Report is also filed under Bangalore City Police unit and concerned authorities at BDA are also intimated in this behalf. Through this Public Notice, the public at large are also informed about the said loss of aforementioned documents by Our Client.

The public at large is hereby informed that if any information in this regard or if any/all of the documents aforementioned pertaining to Our Client's property is found, concerned person(s) are requested to contact us and handover the documents that are found, at the undersigned address within 15 (fifteen) days from the date of publication of this notice.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property of Ground and First floor house bearing B.D.A.No.MR.45, and the land covered by the said house and the land appurtenant thereto in the layout known as Nandini Layout (formed in the property bearing No.MR-45), and situated at Nandini S.F.H.S. Layout extension and bounded on the: **East by:** House No.MR-46; **West by:** House No.MR-44; **North by:** House No.MR-17; and **South by:** Road.

Measuring east to west (7.10 + 7.30)/2 Mtrs, and North to south (14.60 + 14.45)/2 Mtrs, and constructed area 88.88 square meters, and the land measuring 104.58 Square Meters.

Dated this 9th day of April, 2025.
Information or Documents may be sent to:

SREENIVASA RAGHAVAN DV, Partner
ATV Legal, "Trade Center" No. 29/4, 1st & 3rd Floor, Racecourse Road, Bengaluru – 560 001. Ph: 8095829962

AXIS BANK **PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION**
Public Notice for – E-Auction of pledged assets being Gold Ornaments

The Borrowers, in specific and the public in general are hereby notified that public auction of the gold ornaments pledge in the below accounts is proposed to be conducted by the Axis Bank at the below mentioned Branch.

The below mentioned Borrowers has availed the credit facility from the **Axis Bank Limited** against the pledge of gold ornaments("Gold Loan Facility") in favour of the Bank towards the security. The Demand notices were issued to the Borrowers/Guarantors calling up the Borrowers/Guarantors to pay their outstanding amount towards the Gold loan facility availed. As the Borrowers/Guarantors have failed to repay the outstanding loan amount, the bank is constrained to invoke the pledge and proposed to conduct an e-auction sale of pledged gold ornaments more particularly described in schedule of property hereunder on **19.04.2025 at 12:30PM to 3:30PM on "As In Where Is", "As Is What Is", "Whatever There Is" and "No Recourse Basis".**

Details of Borrowers and outstanding amount

Branch Name	Loan A/C No.	Customer Name	Amount Outstanding	Date of Demand Notice	Gross Weight	Net Weight
Banashankari	xxxxxxxxxx284559	K N Shilpa	1708761.55	04-Nov-24	379.500	371.000
Banashankari	xxxxxxxxxx506629	Basudev Pramanik	705519	15-Feb-24	222.800	164.600
Banashankari	xxxxxxxxxx556595	Venkatesh B	29863	28-Nov-24	8.600	8.600
Bangarapet	xxxxxxxxxx673768	Ravichandra K M	87764	28-Nov-24	36.000	35.900
Basaveshwar Nagar	xxxxxxxxxx368258	Ravi B Galagali	213002	28-Feb-25	50.200	50.000
Bhattarahalli	xxxxxxxxxx720158	Gopala	249000	26-Feb-25	56.200	55.000
Chikballapur Kola	xxxxxxxxxx245974	Archana S	1773027	27-Sep-24	276.700	264.800
Chikballapur Kola	xxxxxxxxxx268653	Naveen N	64036	10-Oct-23	8.700	8.400
Devanahalli	xxxxxxxxxx388356	Mahesh N	32693	07-Sep-24	7.100	6.100
Doddballapur	xxxxxxxxxx192935	Mailarappa	1874794	27-Sep-24	290.000	290.000
Doddballapur	xxxxxxxxxx287330	Chand Pasha	92419	26-Jul-24	23.100	23.100
Dommasandra	xxxxxxxxxx367233	Jagathamma Vijayan	78887	04-Nov-24	16.600	16.400
Garvebhavipalya	xxxxxxxxxx432570	Nodi Akther	202282	28-Feb-25	57.000	56.500
Hoskote	xxxxxxxxxx568158	Shilpa	43108	28-Feb-25	12.400	10.300
Jayanagar	xxxxxxxxxx332237	Eshan Prasad	304422	04-Nov-24	91.600	75.000
Jayanagar	xxxxxxxxxx302757	Eshan Prasad	261248	04-Nov-24	58.300	55.300
Kadugodi	xxxxxxxxxx822623	Pradyumna Barik	38039	30-Jan-25	7.800	7.700
Koramangala	xxxxxxxxxx968690	Samyak Dash	120189	15-Feb-24	28.100	26.800
Malur	xxxxxxxxxx793020	Ambrish M	219704	04-Aug-24	63.400	58.400
Peenya	xxxxxxxxxx219248	Venkatadasari Aravinda Reddy	1255684	30-Jan-25	259.500	247.500
R T Nagar	xxxxxxxxxx804780	Aslam Ahmed	732017.21	04-Nov-24	296.200	219.800
RBI Layout	xxxxxxxxxx220762	Shaziya Sulthan	292560	04-Nov-24	64.200	62.000
Robertsonpet	xxxxxxxxxx997160	Archana P	191665	20-Nov-23	36.900	36.800
Yelahanka	xxxxxxxxxx882509	K Sujatha	546678	27-Sep-24	193.000	189.100

Axis Bank Ltd. has the authority to remove account/change the auction date without any prior notice. Auction will be held online https://gold.samil.in on 19.04.2025 between 12:30 PM to 3:30 PM.
For detailed Terms and conditions, please log into given website https://gold.samil.in (website of online vendor)

Place: Bangalore **Sd/- Authorized Officer, Axis Bank LTD.**

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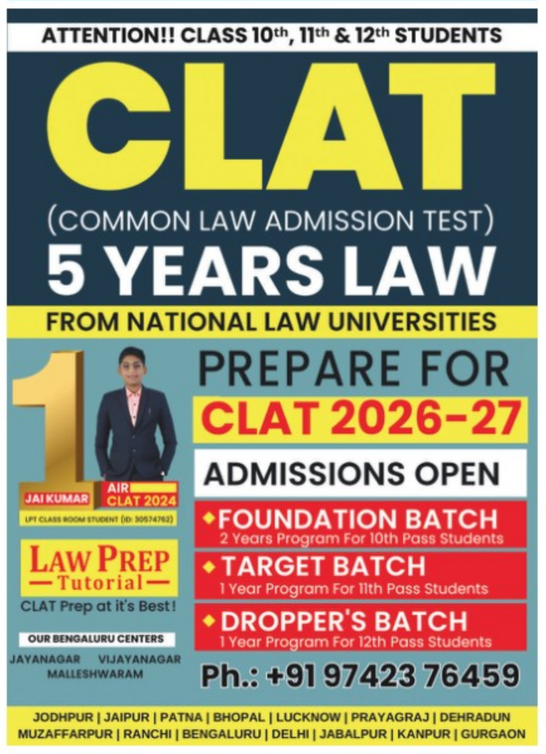
EDUCATIONAL
GENERAL



EDUCATIONAL
GENERAL

NATURE CONSERVATION Foundation (Research Centre affiliated with the Manipal Academy for Higher Education, MAHE), invites applications for Doctoral Programme in conservation science and practice. Candidates must have 55% aggregate marks in Master's and must hold valid UGC–NET (including JRF)/CSIR–UGC NET (including JRF)/GATE or applying for DST–INSPIRE fellowship. Detailed requirements, eligibility, application form and admission procedure are available at https://www.ncf–india.org/. Completed applications must be received by 10th May 2025.

EDUCATIONAL
VACANCIES

EXPERIENCED TEACHERS (TGT) for a CBSE school at Suryapet. Good Salary + food and accommodation. email: jobs.msrschools@gmail.com, Ph: 9848224597

PERSONAL
CHANGE OF NAME

I , Mohamed Chand Pasha Son of late Gulam Mahamood sayeed # lohith nagar nelamangala taluk, nelamangala, Bangalore rural 562123 have changed my name to Chand Pasha for all purposes

PERSONAL
CHANGE OF NAME

I, Rita Shirley U W/O,T.Saravanan R/o Halasuru, Bangalore have changed my name to Rita Shirley as per Aadhar and Affidavit dated-7/4/2025.

I, SANMITRA, S/O: Shivanand Ramachandra Bhat, R/O: Flat No. T–202, Saketh Hillside Apts, 6/1, Gurudatta Layout, Hosakerehalli, Blr –560085. Have Changed My Name To Sanmitra Shivanand Bhat. Vide Affidavit Dated On 07/04/25

I, SAHAR Parveen W/o Yohann Kekoo Sethna R/a No.13, Kensington Road, Ulsoor, Bangalore-560042 have changed my name to Sahar Yohann Sethna vide affidavit dt: 08.04.2025 sworn before Notary Meer Hassan, B'lore.

I, LUBNA Banu Vincent, W/o. Vincent Arockia Nathan, residing at #126/1, 10th Cross, Bharatiyar Road, Ramaswamy Palya, Bengaluru 560033, have changed my name to Lubna Banu vide Affidavit Dated: 08/04/2025, sworn before Notary Meer Hassan, Bengaluru.

I , Hitherto Known As Aden Jay Christian S/o Jothi Sankar Govindaraj Residing At No 284 Srinidhi, 4th Main, Near Bda Nursery, Koramangala 1st Block, Bangalore South, Koramangala, Bengaluru, Bangalore South, Karnataka -560034, Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Aden Lemuel Jay Christian For All Future Purposes

LOST & FOUND

I, Hana Al Haris bearing Passport No. U6746641 has been missing. If found pls contact 8590442650 or send to the address: Saina Manzil, Nambiyeri Meethal Calicut Medical College PO, Kozhikode, Pin-673008, Kerala.

SITUATION VACANT
GENERAL

THE RUBBER BOARD
KOTTAYAM

ADVT.NO.2025-02

Online applications are invited for the posts of Director (Research) and Director (Training) in Rubber Board.

Last Date: 05.05.2025

For details visit website :
recruitments.rubberboard.org.in

DEPUTY SECRETARY (P&A)

Kottayam
Date : 09/04/2025

Scientists demonstrate clear quantum advantage using simple game

Previous attempts at showing quantum supremacy have used complicated problems. Google used random circuit sampling for its Sycamore processor, and Chinese researchers used the Gaussian boson sampling problem for the Jiuzhang computer. Both require specialised equipment to perform, making it difficult to verify the results

Tejasri Gururaj

For a long time, researchers have been looking for the sort of task that a quantum computer will be better at doing than a classical computer. Because if a quantum computer shows that it can be superior, it will achieve a milestone called quantum supremacy.

Researchers from the University of Oxford and Universidad de Sevilla recently demonstrated quantum supremacy using a simple game.

Their finding, published in *Physical Review Letters* in February, borrowed a concept from the odd-cycle graph. The aim here is simple: to colour a circle containing an odd number of points with two colours, such that no two adjacent points have the same colour. This is mathematically impossible.

The researchers adapted this game to use as a test of quantum supremacy.

Previous attempts at showing quantum supremacy have used complicated problems. For example, Google used a problem called random circuit sampling to demonstrate the supremacy of its Sycamore processor in 2019.

Researchers in China went with the Gaussian boson sampling problem for the Jiuzhang quantum computer. Both these problems require complex mathematics and specialised equipment to perform, which makes it difficult to verify the results.

The colouring problem

The setup for the odd-cycle problem is simple. Consider a circle with an odd number of points inside it, say three.

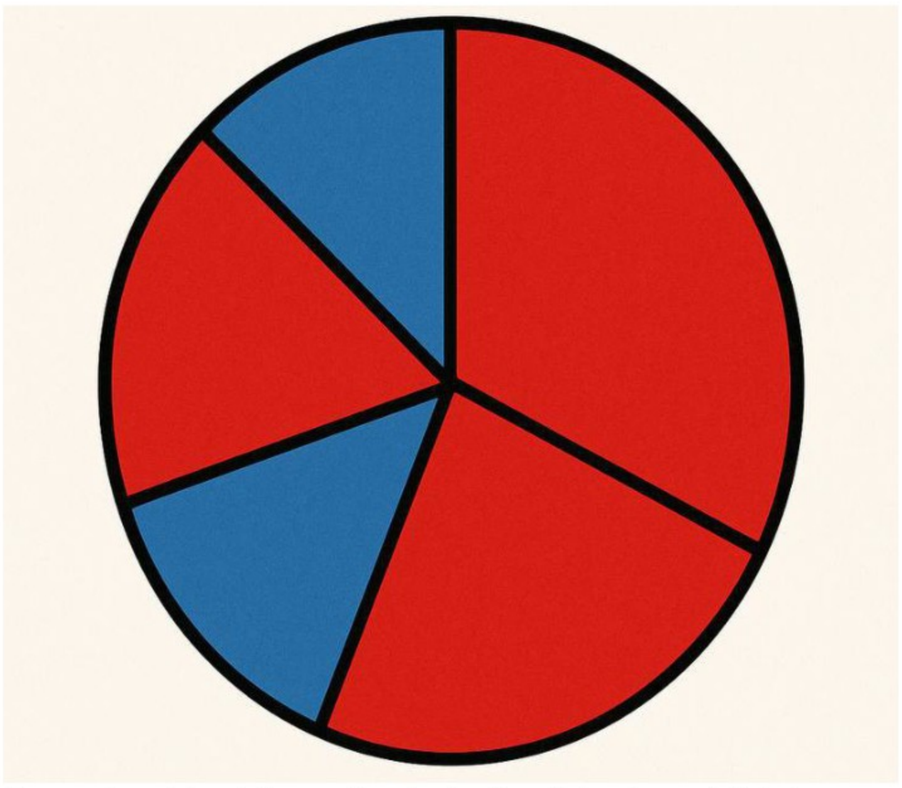
The challenge is to use two colours, blue and red, to colour the points such that no two adjacent points have the same colour.

Once one of the points is coloured red and the other blue, the third point has to be red or blue, breaking the rule.

In the researchers' experiment, there are two players named Alice and Bob who can't communicate with each other. A referee asks them questions about the colour of the points in an odd-numbered circle.

The game ends in victory if two conditions are met: when asked about the same points, the players must answer with the same colour (e.g., both must say "blue"), and when asked about adjacent points, they must answer with different colours (i.e., Alice says "blue" and Bob says "red").

In the classical scenario, the players agree on a colouring pattern for the points before the game begins, yielding a success rate of 83.3% for a three-point circle. In other words, the game can be won 83.3% of the time.



Can you colour a circle containing an odd number of sections with two colours, such that no two adjacent sections have the same colour? IMAGE CREATED WITH CHATGPT

Playing the quantum game

To implement the quantum version of the experiment, the researchers trapped two strontium atoms in separate locations 2 m apart.

Using lasers, the researchers entangled the two atoms. When two particles are entangled, they are correlated in a way that classical physics cannot explain. Measuring one particle – i.e., checking its present condition – will instantaneously affect the other.

A single computer acted as the referee,

Google Quantum AI's Hartmut Neven (L) and Anthony Megrant (R) examine a cryostat refrigerator for cooling quantum computing chips at Google's Quantum lab in Santa Barbara, California. REUTERS

Using lasers, the researchers entangled two trapped strontium atoms. When two particles are entangled, they are correlated in a way that classical physics cannot explain. Measuring one particle will instantaneously affect the other

sending the questions to two separate control systems controlled by Alice and Bob. After receiving the questions, each player performs specific quantum operations on the atom using laser pulses.

These operations involved rotating their particles through specific angles that were mathematically related to which point on the circle a question was about. The first question meant rotating some angle, say, and the second question meant rotating through a different angle.

After performing the operations, the players measured their atoms to determine the answer, which could be 0 or 1.

Each number was mapped to a colour, blue or red, and its value was reported to the referee.

The researchers played this game for circles containing 3 to 27 points 101,000 times, which took about a minute.

They also performed additional tests to verify the strength of the correlations and ensure they are quantum in nature.

The quantum advantage

For the 3-point circle, the quantum scenario had a win rate much greater than the classical scenario (i.e., 83.3%). It clearly demonstrated quantum supremacy, which the team showed for circles with up to 19 points.

Across all the 101,000 games, their implementation achieved a win rate of 97.8%. The remaining 2.2% gap was attributed to noise while creating the entanglement between the atoms.

Their test to make sure the atoms were properly entangled was also found to be the strongest such correlation ever observed between two separated quantum systems.

Why this matters

As demonstrated in the study, the odd-cycle game approach is much simpler to implement to establish quantum supremacy.

In order to prove the Sycamore processor had achieved quantum supremacy, Google fitted it with 53 superconducting qubits, an enormous computational resource. On the other hand, the researchers used only two entangled qubits, which is much simpler and less computationally demanding than Google's setup.

According to the researchers, their approach could be used in practical scenarios where collaborating agents can't communicate, such as the rendezvous task. A type of coordination problem, the rendezvous task is about two or more people meeting at a particular location without communicating with each other.

A classical computer may try to determine where they will meet by systematically exploring potential meeting points and the routes the two people may take to get there. A quantum computer will leverage quantum entanglement to create correlations that classical physics can't reproduce, speeding up its search for the most likely meeting point.

If there are 1 million meeting points, for example, the worst-case number of steps for a classical computer to find the meeting point is 1 million, whereas for a quantum computer using Grover's algorithm, would be 1,000 steps.

For now, the odd-cycle game is an example of the kind of power quantum computers have, without requiring complicated mathematics to make sense of.

(Tejasri Gururaj is a freelance science writer and journalist with a master's degree in physics. tejasrigururaj@gmail.com)

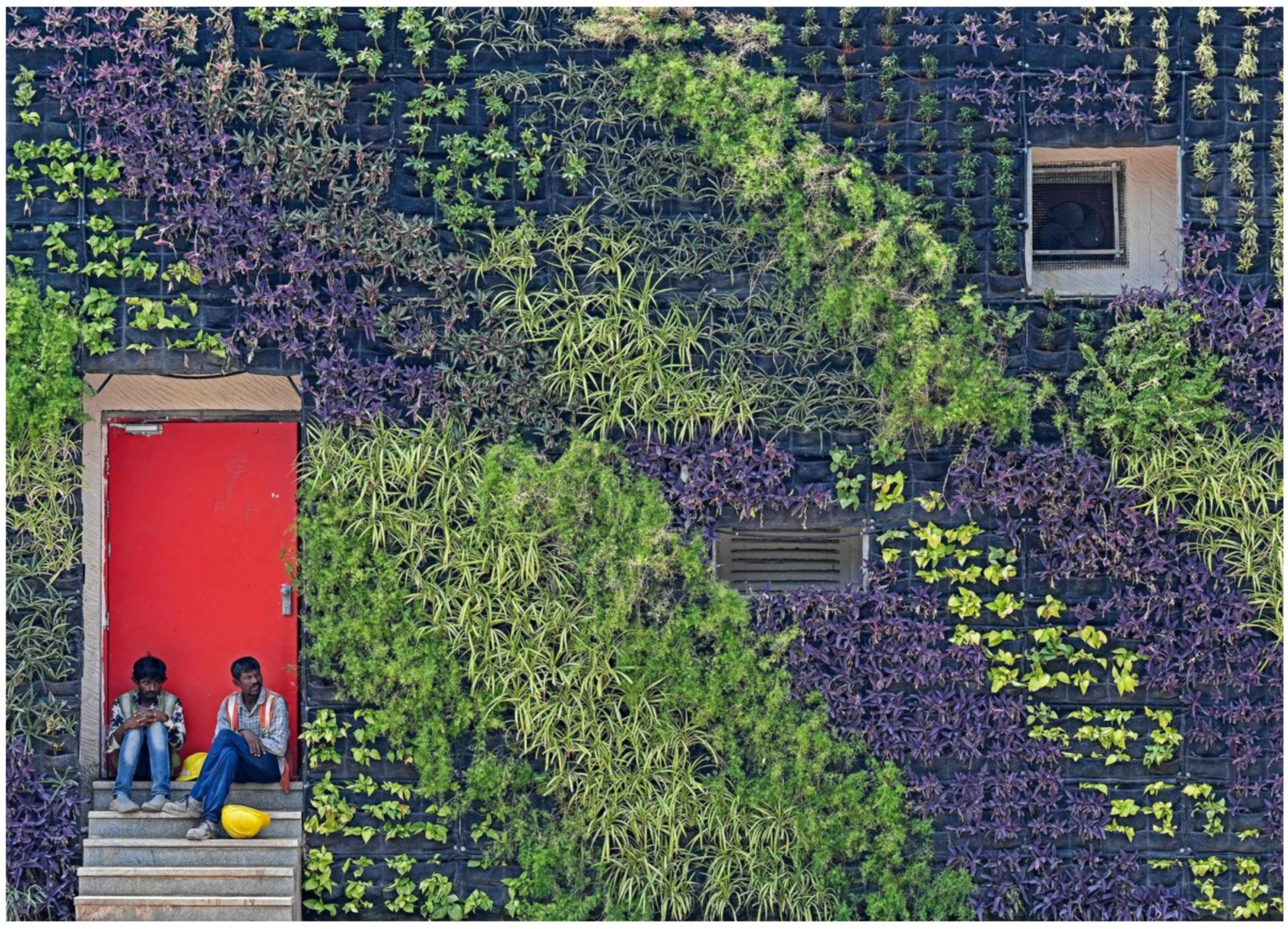
THE GIST

In the classical scenario, the players agree on a colouring pattern for the points before the game begins, yielding a success rate of 83.3% for a three-point circle. In other words, the game can be won 83.3% of the time

For the 3-point circle, the quantum scenario had a win rate much greater than the classical scenario. It clearly demonstrated quantum supremacy. Across all the 101,000 games, their implementation achieved a win rate of 97.8%

A quantum computer will leverage entanglement to create correlations that classical physics can't reproduce. If there are 1 million meeting points in a rendezvous task, the worst-case number of steps for a classical computer is 1 million, whereas a quantum computer would require 1,000

BIG SHOT



Labourers take cover in the doorway of a building decorated with plants on a hot day in Mumbai on April 8. India can expect hotter-than-usual temperatures this summer with more heatwaves taking a toll on lives and livelihoods, the India Meteorological Department has warned. AFP

QUESTION CORNER

The making of a fruit

Q: How do fruits ripen?

A1: Ripening of fruits is associated with the process of senescence or ageing in plants. It involves changes in colour, texture, flavour, sugar content, and acidity, and is influenced by the ripening hormone ethylene. As ripening begins, there is a corresponding increase in respiration, which is followed by increased ethylene production.

It triggers a series of biochemical changes such as lateral growth and loosening of cell walls, resulting in more intercellular spaces, the conversion of starch and organic acids into sugars, hydrolysis of stored materials, decrease in chlorophyll content, with corresponding increase in colouring pigments, and emission of characteristic volatile oils.

— T. Nagendra Pillai of Guruvayoor

A2: Colour changes occur due to synthesis of carotenoids (yellow and red) and phenolic compounds like anthocyanins (red and blue). Changes in texture occur by limited degradation of cell walls followed by an increase in polygalacturonase and pectinesterase activity. In bananas and apples, the enzymes phosphorylase and in mangoes amylase break the starch into glucose and sucrose, leading to their sweet taste. Volatile compounds such as ethyl-2-methyl butrate (in apples) also elicit a sweet smell.

Ripening of fruits is associated with the process of senescence or aging in plants. JONAS KAKAROTO/UNSPLASH

Acidity of fruits is due to the presence of malic acid (in apples, apricots, bananas, cherries, and plums), citric acid (in gooseberry, tomatoes, and peaches), and malic acid and tartaric acid (in grapes).

Ripening is a prerequisite for the development of embryos after fertilisation and for better dispersal of seeds for survival.

— P.S. Dheenadayalan, Coimbatore

For feedback and suggestions
for 'Science', please write to
science@thehindu.co.in
with the subject 'Daily page'

Ex-convict arrested for burglary

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

An ex-convict was arrested by Subramanyapura police for allegedly stealing gold, silver, and cash from a house in AGS Layout in Uttarahalli. The accused, identified as Sridhar. T. S., was arrested on March 23 near Doddabidarakallu.

According to the police, the complainant Raghavendra Praveen and his family had gone to Prayagraj for Kumbh Mela on February 23, and when they returned on February 26, they noticed that a break-in has taken place and 387 grams of gold, silver coins weighing 100 grams, and ₹50,000 cash was missing.

The accused allegedly confessed to the crime and said that another person, whom he had met while he was lodged in Parappana Agrahara jail, helped him with the burglary. The duo was released from jail in February first week.

BBMP notifies SWM user fee a week after it comes into force

Fee for residential properties ranges from ₹10 to ₹400 a month

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A week after it came into effect on April 1, the city's civic body finally issued a notification stipulating Solid Waste Management (SWM) user fee that property owners, of both residential and non-residential properties, need to pay along with their property tax.

According to a circular issued by the civic body, the SWM user fee for residential properties has been fixed between ₹10 and ₹400 per month, depending on the size of the property. There are six slabs ranging from 600 sq.ft. to 4,000 sq.ft., translating into an annual fee ranging from ₹120 to ₹4,800. A senior BBMP official clarified that although this fee is integrated into the property tax system, it will not cause the total tax outgo to increase by more than 30% for residential property owners. Vacant site owners will be required to pay a nominal annual fee of ₹0.60 to the BBMP for waste management.

For non-residential establishments, the civic body has imposed higher SWM user fees, ranging from ₹2,000 to ₹35 lakh per year across ten slabs based on property sizes ranging between 1,000 sq.ft. and 5 lakh sq.ft. For hotels and lodges, including luxury and star-rated properties, the BBMP has introduced separate categories. These establishments will pay user fees ranging from ₹4,000 to ₹70 lakh, while upscale star hotels are liable to pay between ₹95,000 and ₹87.5 lakh annually, based on seven size slabs.

In the non-residential category, SWM user fee is subject to caps to prevent excessive increases in property tax. For properties with both self-occupied and rented portions, if the inclusion of the user fee pushes the property tax increase beyond 60%, the fee will be capped at that limit. For rented properties, the cap is set at 30%. Meanwhile, for hotels, lodges, and five-star establishments, the user fee will not exceed a 60% increase in the total property tax.

The BBMP has also clarified that bulk waste generators, who produce more than 100 kgs of waste per day, such as large apartment complexes that manage their waste independently or through empanelled vendors will be exempt from this user fee. However, those who opt for BBMP's waste collection services will be charged accordingly. The user fee for bulk waste generators is ₹12 per kg.

A senior official from Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited (BSWML) stated that the goal is to ensure accountability in waste generation and disposal, while encouraging decentralised processing. By integrating the user fee with the existing property tax mechanism, the BBMP intends to streamline revenue collection and fund waste management initiatives more efficiently.

Residential properties

Built-up area	User fee (per month)
600 sq. ft	₹10
601 sq. ft to 1,000 sq. ft	₹50
1,001 sq. ft to 2,000 sq. ft	₹100
2,001 sq. ft to 3,000 sq. ft	₹150
3,000 sq. ft to 4,000 sq. ft	₹200
Above 4,000 sq. ft	₹400

Orthopaedic surgeon Thomas Chandy passes away

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Thomas Chandy

Thomas Chandy, an orthopaedic surgeon and the Chairman and Managing Director of HOSMAT Hospital, passed away at the age of 74 on Monday night following a prolonged lung-related illness.

"Dr. Thomas Chandy had been suffering from Interstitial Lung Disease and underwent a lung transplant at Manipal Hospital on HAL Road. He breathed his last at around 11.20 p.m. on April 7 at Manipal Hospital," a statement from his family said.

He did his medical education from St. John's Medical College in 1973. Following his training in Orthopaedics at St. John's and St. Martha's Hospital, Bengaluru, he went to the United States for higher studies, where he also worked for several years and returned to the city in 1993 to set up HOSMAT Hospital.

An avid musician, Dr. Chandy was a passionate collector of musical instruments, with a personal collection of over 350 instruments from around the world.

ED detains chairman of Shivamogga DCC Bank

The Hindu Bureau
SHIVAMOGGA/BENGALURU

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Tuesday raided multiple locations in Shivamogga and Bengaluru in connection with a decade-old case pertaining to the disbursal of a loan of over ₹62 crore against fake gold jewellery in Shivamogga District Central Cooperative Bank. The ED sleuths have detained the bank's incumbent Chairman R.M. Manjunath Gowda, who was also the Chairman of the bank when the alleged scam took place, from a guest house in Bengaluru, sources said.

Mr. Gowda has been re-elected to the post. He is a prominent Congress leader and also heads the Malnad Area Development Board. He was being grilled by the ED sleuths, the sources said. However, they were tight-lipped over whether he would be arrested in the case or not. Mr. Gowda was arrested by the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) of the State police in 2014 and was later released on bail. The scam came to light in 2014 when a general manager of the bank lodged a complaint with the Shivamogga police alleging large-scale financial irregularities.

Timings
BENGALURU

WEDNESDAY, APR. 09	
RISE 06:11	SET 18:32
RISE 15:51	SET 03:49
THURSDAY, APR. 10	
RISE 06:10	SET 18:32
RISE 16:36	SET 04:24
FRIDAY, APR. 11	
RISE 06:09	SET 18:32
RISE 17:21	SET 04:58

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	34	25
Mysuru	35	21
Bengaluru	34	23

Bengaluru Today
34°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be warm. Night will be pleasant. Mostly dry weather to prevail.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
34°C The weather will be dry. Day will be warm Night will be pleasant.

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THE HINDU
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THE HINDU
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By
V. SOMANNA
Union Minister of State for Railways and Jal Shakti

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Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Opposition MLAs who moved no confidence motion in J&K

3 Opposition legislators led by People's Conference leader Sajad Gani Lone presented a no-confidence motion against the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly Speaker. Mr. Lone alleged that the Speaker had become an "impediment" to voicing their opinion against the Waqf (Amendment) Act. PTI

Median compensation for professional CEOs in India

10 in ₹ crore. The median compensation for professional CEOs is up by 13% over the previous year, according to the Deloitte India Executive Performance and Rewards Survey 2025. According to the survey, the pay for other CXOs like COOs, CFOs etc. saw an increase over the last year. PTI

Number of saplings planted by the U.P. government in a week

11,047 As part of a special green drive, the Uttar Pradesh government planted over 11,000 saplings at 781 religious sites in the last seven days. The Forest Department carried out the 'Shakti Vatika Aastha Aevam Hariyali' campaign. PTI

Collateral-free loan sanctioned under the Mudra Yojana

33 in ₹ lakh crore. The Prime Minister highlighted that 52 crore loans have been disbursed under the scheme. He stated that, "half of the Mudra beneficiaries belong to SC, ST and OBC communities, and over 70 per cent of the beneficiaries are women." PTI

Fine imposed on those who fail to leave after deportation order

998 in $ per day. The Trump administration is considering seizing the property of immigrants who do not pay the fines, according to government emails. The fines stem from a 1996 law that was enforced for the first time in 2018. REUTERS

COMPILED BY KUSHAL VARMA J.V.

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Why is active mobility necessary in India?

What is active mobility and how is it a sustainable mode of transportation? What is the Karnataka Active Mobility Bill, 2022? How will non-motorised modes of transport increase health benefits? How have other countries integrated active mobility in their infrastructures?

EXPLAINER

Dev Nath Pathak
Ruth Anna. A

The story so far:

Sporadic reports of accidental deaths and injuries of pedestrians, cyclists, street-hawkers, and others in the metro cities of India are on the rise. While urban development in various metro cities include patches of dedicated service lanes for pedestrians and cyclists, motor vehicles tend to ply on them as well. As a result, the risk of accidents are as high on these pathways as on the main roads with vehicular traffic. In such a grim situation, active mobility is the need of the hour.

What is active mobility?

Active mobility refers to modes of transportation that use human power instead of a motorised form of mobility. Active modes of transport include walking, cycling, skateboarding, and other non-motorised modes that are used for travel and not recreational activities.

Active mobility in India has gained attention due to increasing traffic congestion, pollution, health concerns, and rising pedestrian deaths. This is accompanied by the growing importance of sustainable transport in national policies like the National Transit Oriented Development (NTOD) policy and the Smart Cities Mission (SCM), along with international efforts such as the Paris Agreement which emphasises reducing carbon emissions and promoting eco-friendly mobility.

Bengaluru's first Bicycle Mayor, Sathya Sankaran, has been a key advocate for cycling and pedestrian-friendly infrastructure since 2018. His efforts contributed to the drafting of the Karnataka Active Mobility Bill, 2022. In 2020, Karnataka recorded the highest number of pedestrian deaths in the country at 13%. Therefore, the Bill aims to promote urban mobility through the protection of the rights of pedestrians and cyclists. The inherent goal of this bill is to provide a legal structure protecting and promoting active mobility, and ensuring equal access to public space. Several other States are also giving attention to active mobility. Delhi is expanding cycling tracks and pedestrian-friendly streets under its Delhi EV policy. Pune has implemented a Comprehensive Bicycle Plan and developed over 300 km of cycling lanes. Chennai is redesigning roads under the SCM to improve pedestrian safety, while Kochi has introduced a Public Bicycle Sharing (PBS) system to enhance last-mile connectivity.

Towards a healthy city: Cycling lanes in Bengaluru. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

What is its significance?

As stated by the World Health Organization (WHO), active mobility in all its forms has economic, social, environmental, and health benefits. The economic benefits include reduced household expenditure on fuel and transportation and lower healthcare costs due to enhanced public health. It also boosts local businesses since pedestrian-friendly infrastructure attracts higher foot traffic.

Walking and cycling are sustainable modes of transport as compared to motorised vehicles due to their marginal carbon emissions. They enhance energy security and significantly reduce India's 12% carbon emissions from road transportation. Cities with well-developed infrastructure for active transport report cleaner air and reduced traffic congestion. Moreover, active modes of transport are known to reduce the risk of chronic diseases, improve cardiovascular health, promote mental well-being, and enhance public health among citizens. It is a mode of transportation that makes cities more vibrant and climate-conscious.

What are the barriers?

Active mobility remains severely underutilised because urban infrastructure actively discourages it. The lack of adequate pedestrian and cyclist-friendly infrastructure hinders active mobility as a primary mode of transport. As of 2021, more than 85% of roads do not meet the minimum safety requirements for walking and cycling. This is also accompanied by the availability of low-cost, alternative modes of motorised transport. Additionally, extreme weather conditions and long distances of travel discourage people from adopting active modes of transport.

Moreover, social perceptions act as significant barriers. In many regions, cars and bikes are associated with a higher social status. India has a burgeoning number of privately owned motor vehicles plying on the road. According to the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers, over 12,000 cars are sold every day in India. High traffic congestion, along with weak enforcement of traffic regulations, makes walking and cycling unsafe.

How have other countries fared?

With more than 35,000 km of dedicated cycling lanes, The Netherlands is a global leader in promoting active mobility through cycling. The European Union's Mobility and Transport department prioritises promoting walking and cycling as a means of transport to enable more sustainable mobility. This is accompanied by Vision Zero, which aims to mitigate the number of incidents between pedestrians, cyclists, and motor vehicles. Germany's Berlin Mobility Act mandates wider sidewalks and dedicated cycling lanes, reduced speed limits for motorised vehicles within city limits, and prioritises pedestrians/cyclists in urban planning.

Dev Nath Pathak, Associate Dean, Faculty of Social Science, South Asian University. Ruth Anna A is a Research Scholar, Christ University.

THE GIST

- Active modes of transport include walking, cycling, skateboarding, and other non-motorised modes that are used for travel and not recreational activities.
- Bengaluru's first Bicycle Mayor, Sathya Sankaran, has been a key advocate for cycling and pedestrian-friendly infrastructure since 2018. His efforts contributed to the drafting of the Karnataka Active Mobility Bill, 2022.
- With more than 35,000 km of dedicated cycling lanes, The Netherlands is a global leader in promoting active mobility through cycling.

What is the current political situation in South Korea?

Why did former President Yoon Suk Yeol declare martial law last year? Did the Corruption Investigation Office try to arrest the former President?

Femy Francis

The story so far:

On April 4, South Korea's constitutional court upheld the impeachment of former President Yoon Suk Yeol. The Court unanimously (8-0) agreed in favour of the impeachment. Mr. Yoon is the second president to be removed from office in the last eight years. According to the constitution, South Korea will have to elect a new President within 60 days.

What led to his impeachment?

On December 3, 2024, President Yoon announced an emergency and declared martial law to protect South Korea from "anti-state forces" and to eliminate "despicable pro-North Koreans." This was the 17th martial law in the history of independent South Korea. Six hours later, the National Assembly convened and 190 members voted in favour of lifting the martial law under Article 77. On December 14, 2024, in its second motion, the Assembly succeeded in voting President Yoon out of office with 204 votes in favour. Of the 300 seats in the National Assembly, the Democratic Party of Korea (DPK) holds 170, while the People's Power Party (PPP), to which Mr. Yoon belongs, has 108 seats.

What happened after impeachment?

The declaration of martial law and the impeachment motion ignited public protests across South Korea. It polarised society; thousands protested against the impeachment, supporting Mr. Yoon, while 2,00,000 people gathered outside the parliament, supporting his removal. On January 17, the Corruption Investigation Office requested an arrest warrant against Mr. Yoon, which was approved, leading to Yoon supporters attacking the courthouse. The 11th and final hearing on the martial decree took place on February 25. In his last hearing, he stated that his intention was only to warn the public of anti-state forces.

What does the verdict say?

The constitutional court upheld the impeachment of Mr. Yoon and expressed disillusionment with his reasoning. It held that Mr. Yoon did not follow the constitutional mandate, rules, and procedure. While Mr. Yoon argued that he imposed martial law due to the presence of anti-state forces, the verdict contradicted the same and stated that he declared martial law to overcome the National Assembly, which composed mostly of the opposition. The verdict ruled that his actions threatened the military's political neutrality and placed the soldiers serving the nation in direct confrontation with its people.

Furthermore, the verdict argued that the political and economic cost of impeachment is more acceptable than the negative repercussions of a violated constitutional and democratic process. Mr. Yoon's claims of alleged election fraud were also dismissed. Based on all the above, the court upheld the removal of Mr. Yoon and said he "abandoned his duty to uphold the Constitution and gravely betrayed the trust of the sovereign citizens of Korea." Mr. Yoon will now face a series of criminal charges that he was shielded from during his tenure.

What is next for South Korea?

The Presidential elections will be held on June 3. As crowds of supporters and protestors clear off the streets, the interim heads and security forces are on high alert to maintain peace and order.

The PPP is now in disarray, with Mr. Yoon being seen as a wronged leader by many of his supporters. Lee Jae-Myung of the DPK is the most favoured contender for the elections. He had led his party to victory in last year's parliamentary elections. South Korea also faces an external challenge with the U.S. imposing 25% "reciprocal tariffs". Thus, the next President will have to address both political and economic challenges.

Femy Francis is a researcher at Global Politics Area Studies on China, East Asia and the Pacific at the National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bengaluru

THE GIST

- On December 3, 2024, President Yoon announced an emergency and declared martial law to protect South Korea from "anti-state forces" and to eliminate "despicable pro-North Koreans."
- On December 14, 2024, in its second motion, the Assembly succeeded in voting President Yoon out of his office with 204 votes in favour.
- The constitutional court upheld the impeachment of Mr. Yoon and expressed disillusionment with his reasoning.

SCIENCE

Solving a good number of test papers in the college boosted my confidence and made me face the examination without any fear. My parents and teachers kept me motivated through the rough phases. I am interested in pursuing a career in engineering.

AMOOLYA KAMATH. Expert Pre-University College, Kodialbail, Mangaluru

My teachers responded whenever I required their help in understanding concepts. As both of my parents are teachers, they helped me too in planning studies and facing exams. I wish to pursue engineering. I hope to get good ranking in the entrance tests.

DEEKSHA R. Vagdevi PU College, Tirthahalli, Shivamogga district

COMMERCE

The government had given me a laptop because I was a topper in SSLC. It was useful in my preparations. I concentrated more on solving difficult concepts and took the help of lecturers in clarifying doubts. I plan to pursue a career as a chartered accountant.

DEEPASHREE S.
Canara PU College, Kodialbail, Mangaluru

ARTS

The syllabus was completed by November-end in our college. Then we had a preparatory examination every morning and syllabus revision in the afternoon. That helped us. My next dream is to crack UPSC examination to join Indian Administrative Service.

L.R. SANJANA BAI
Indu PU College, Kottur, Vijayanagar district

II PU: Girls trump boys yet again; Udupi emerges as top performer

Yadgir district recorded lowest results with 48.45%, followed by Kalaburagi 55.70%, which ranked last the previous year

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In the II PUC results for 2024-25 announced on Tuesday, the girls have again trumped boys. While Udupi district in Coastal Karnataka emerged the top performer, Yadgir part of Kalyana Karnataka has ranked last, keeping with the trend compared to previous years.

This year too, the pass percentage of girls is higher than boys by 9.68%. A total of 2,69,212 (77.88%) girls passed against 1,99,227 (68.20%) boys. Not only the overall pass percentage, girls have clearly outnumbered boys even among toppers this year.

All those who topped the state in Science, Commerce and Arts streams are girls. Even among the top ten students, girls have hogged the limelight. In Arts stream all the top ten scorers were girls and in Science stream eight were girls and in the Commerce stream seven were girls.

In district-wise performance, Udupi district has topped the State with overall pass percentage of 93.9%, followed by 93.57% in Dakshina Kannada, 85.36% in Bengaluru South, 83.84% in Kodagu and 83.31% in Bengaluru North. Last year, Dakshina Kannada topped the list and Udupi ranked second.

Yadgir district recorded lowest results with 48.45% this year, followed by Kalaburagi 55.70%, which ranked last the previous year, Raichur 58.75%, Vijayapura 58.81% and Chitradurga 59.87%.

This year a whopping 5414 students scored centum in Language Kannada paper, followed by 4038 students in Mathematics and 2536 students in Sanskrit, 2346 students in Biology, 2013 in Statistics and 1137 in Computer Science.

While 1,00,571 students have got distinction (above 85%), 2,78,054 students got first class (60% to 85%), 70,969 students got second class (50% to 60%) and 18,845 students got pass class (35% to 50%).

Amongst students with special needs, those with Autism have performed the best, with a pass percentage of 75.56% this year. Of the 45 students who appeared for the examination 34 passed. Along with them, 186 students with visual impairment, 19 with cerebral palsy, 102 with hearing impairment and 72 with learning disability, among others passed the exams.

Sweet success: Pratheeksha P., a student at ASC PU College in Rajajinagar, who scored 597 out 600 and secured third rank in Commerce stream, celebrating with her friends after II PUC results were announced on Tuesday. SUDHAKARA JAIN

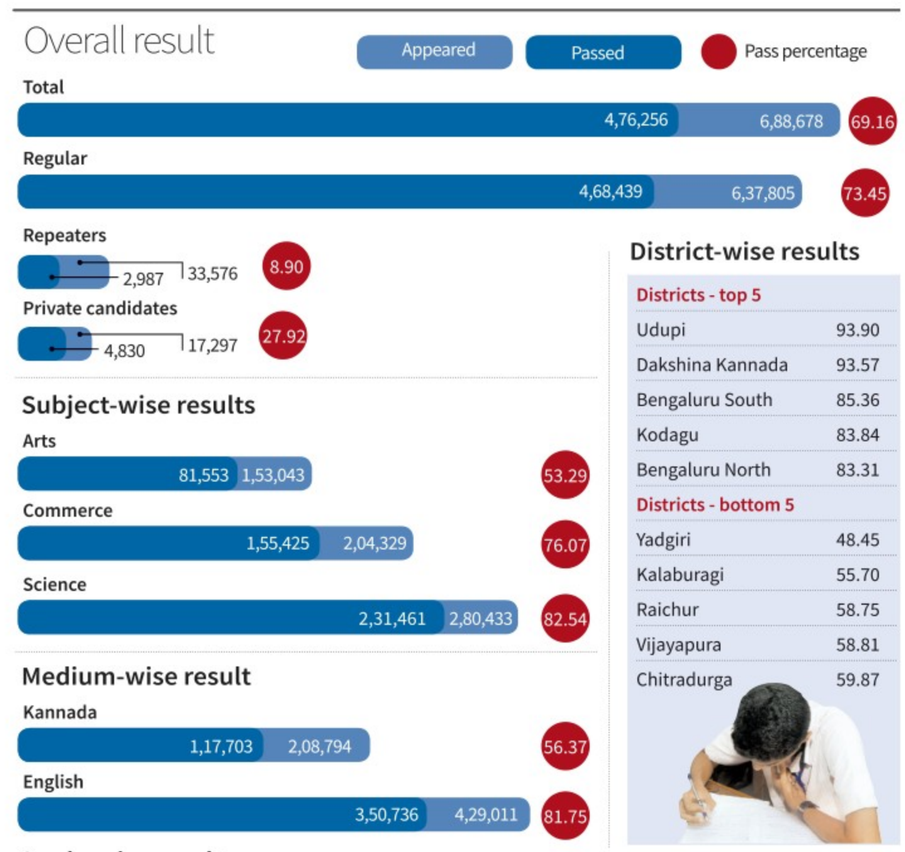
Apply for scanned copy of answer sheets by April 13

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Students who want to access scanned copies of their answer sheets have to apply on or before April 13. Scanned copies of answer sheets can be downloaded from April 12 to 16.

The last date to apply for revaluation and re-totalling is April 17. The Department of School Education and Literacy has announced that an online payment facility is available to apply scan copy and revaluation fees.

The revaluation and re-totaling results will be announced on the department website. The committee of re-evaluators decision will be final and there is no provision for any appeals in this regard.



State govt. waives fee for II PU exams 2 and 3

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a move to encourage more students to take up annual II PU examinations 2 and 3, the State government has announced a complete fee waiver for these exams this year.

"There are parents who discourage students from taking up exams just because they have to pay the exam fees again. Considering such cases, we have announced a fee waiver for annual examinations 2 and 3," said Madhu Bangarappa, Minister for School Education and Literacy.

The Minister appealed to all students who have failed in exam 1 and wish to improve their scores to take advantage of this opportunity and register for the examination 2 and 3 free of cost. However, this fee waiver will be applicable only for the current batch of students.

Revaluation
The candidates need not wait for the revaluation results of their exam 1 papers to apply for the annual examination 2. Revaluation marks will be considered as marks scored in the annual exam 1.

To improve the results in annual examination 2 and 3, Mr. Bangarappa has directed the officials of the department to conduct special coaching for students.

"There are two more exams, and students who have failed should not be discouraged for any reason. In the interest of the future of the students, it has been decided to conduct special classes for those who have failed till the end of exam 3. I have instructed the officials to start classes from Wednesday itself. Students who wish to improve their marks can also participate in these classes," he said.

In Kalyana Karnataka
"In the Kalyana Karnataka region we have directed the teachers to conduct classes in the evening considering the rising temperature which may force students to skip classes in morning and afternoon hours," the Minister stated.

The KSEAB has decided to conduct the annual examination 2 from April 24 to May 8 across the State.

Schedule of II PU exam-2

- April 24: Kannada, Arabic
- April 25: Political Science, Statistics, Biology
- April 26: History, Physics
- April 28: Geography, Psychology, Chemistry, Basic Maths
- April 29: English
- May 2: Logic, Business Studies, Maths, Education
- May 3: Political Science, Statistics
- May 4: Geography, Psychology, Chemistry, Home Science, Basic Maths
- May 9: Logic, Business Studies, Mathematics, Education, Home Science
- May 3: Sociology, Geology, Electronics, Computer Science
- May 5: Economics
- May 6: Optional Kannada, Accountancy
- May 7: Hindi
- May 9: In the morning session: Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Marathi, Urdu, Sanskrit, French. In the afternoon session: Hindustani Music, Information Technology, Retail, Automobile, Beauty and Wellness

> There are two more exams...In the interest of the future of the students, it has been decided to conduct special classes for those who have failed till the end of the third exam.
>
> **MADHU BANGARAPPA,** Minister for School Education and Literacy

From Page One

II PU results: Pass percentage drops significantly to 69.16

"As the exam process will be completed only after exam 3, we have hopes to improve the results by 3-4%," Mr. Bangarappa said.

Only freshers
The Karnataka School Examination and Assessment Board (KSEAB), while announcing the result, claimed a pass percentage of 73.45%, considering only freshers.

However, the results are calculated considering the pass percentage of freshers, repeaters, and private candidates, which will bring it to 69.16% this year.

Poor performance
Repeaters and private candidates have performed poorly with 8.9% and 27.92% pass percentage, respectively, bringing down the results.

No grace marks
This time, the department has not given any grace marks, except to push those who were on the borderline, a common practice every year.

"There were 8,297 students in the borderline, and were pushed with the grace marks as per the scheme of evaluation," Mr. Bangarappa said.

They triumphed against all odds

The Hindu Bureau
KALABURAGI

Poverty did not deter L.R. Sanjana Bai, daughter of a lorry driver, and K. Nirmala, daughter of an agricultural worker, from overcoming all odds and putting up an impressive show in the II PU examination.

While Sanjana, a student of Indu PU College in Kottur, Vijayanagara district, topped the Arts stream by securing 597 marks out of 600, K. Nirmala of Sri Panchamasali PU College at Ittigi in Huvina Hadagali taluk has secured the second position by scoring 596 marks.

Sanjana's father drives his truck across the country. He is the breadwinner of the family and her mother is a homemaker.

Sanjana college completely waived fees for admission to second year as she topped the II PU exam. "I had to pay only the hostel fees," Sanjana told *The Hindu*. The family found it very difficult to pay even Sanjana's hostel fees in one instalment and did so in three instalments.

K. Nirmala and Nagaveni Raichur

Nirmala's mother, a divorcee, has raised her with the help of her mother and brothers. "The family toils on five acres of dry land. My mother works as a farm worker in the fields of others. They are the ones who, despite the poverty, took care of us and our education. They paid the college fees in instalments," Nirmala said.

Also inspiring is the story of Nagaveni Raichur, daughter of Anthony Raichur, a construction worker, and Sulochana, a domestic help, from Hubballi, who has secured the fifth rank in the Arts stream. Nagaveni even worked part-time during vacation to support her parents. She is a student of the Government PU College at Gopanakoppa in Hubballi.

Scholarships from various organisations and also financial assistance from her teachers helped her in paying the fee and purchase books.

While there was big celebration at the college after the announcement of the results, Nagaveni was not fully happy as she had set her target on the first rank.

Nepali citizens held, valuables worth ₹50 lakh recovered

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Thalaghattapura Police arrested five Nepali citizens for allegedly breaking in and stealing valuables from a house in JHBCS Layout in Gubbalala.

The police recovered valuables worth ₹50 lakh including 502 grams of gold, 4.5 kg silver, diamond jewellery and two mobile phones from the accused, said Police Commissioner B. Dayananda on Tuesday.

The accused have been identified as Lal Bahadur Bohara, 48, Kamal Bahadur Chalouni, 34, Kiran Bohara, 23, Netra Bahadur Chalouni, 42, and Rajesh Bahadur Saha, 35, who were working for daily wages in hotels and other places. According to the complainant, Ravishankar, a civic contractor in JHBCS Layout, on March 28, he, along with his wife and son, left the house for work as usual in the morning, and when they returned in the evening they noticed the break-in and valuables missing.

Based on the complaint, the police immediately took up the investigation and within 48 hours arrested one of the accused near Karishma Hills in Gubbalala.

Valuables recovered
Then, based on the information given by him, the other four were also arrested in a lodge on Kanakapura Main Road on March 30. The police recovered 372 grams of gold and diamond jewellery and 2.2 kg silver from them. Subsequently, on April 2, 110 grams of gold jewellery and 1.1 kg silver articles and two mobile phones were recovered from the house of the accused who was first arrested. On April 3, 20 grams of gold and 1.2 kg of silver was recovered from his wife.

International media conference at Kristu Jayanti College

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The role of social media and emerging communication technologies in reshaping modern journalism was discussed at an international media conference held at Kristu Jayanti College. The conference, themed 'Global dialogues in communication design: Bridging cultures, embracing technologies', was organised by the Department of Media Studies in collaboration with Robert Gordon University, Scotland.

In his inaugural address, Himanshu Shekhar Mishra, senior editor at NDTV India, emphasised that social media has become the primary gateway for news flow in today's society.

Fr. Augustine Goerge, Principal of Kristu Jayanti College, delivered the presidential address.

KEYWORD

A statue of Ovid in Piazza XX Settembre, Sulmona, Italy. GETTY IMAGES

Reading Ovid and his ideas of empire from the subcontinent

To first-year undergraduate students, Ovid was the primer to literature's paradox. Writing, they learnt, did not merely uphold authority; it exposed its fragility. Writers, we realised, were not necessarily heroes. And for this reason, reading was never just reading. It was a relentless force

Jonathan Koshy Varghese

Nothing intimates the slow unravelling of the Roman empire quite like Jean-Paul Laurens' portrait of Honorius Flavius – the boy emperor consumed by a world too big for him. Titled 'The Late Empire: Honorius' (1880), the painting captures the throne's fragility and the boy who barely fills it. His face is young, untouched by experience, but his eyes already hold the heavy certainty of impending ruin. The feet swaying above the marble are as unsteady as his hold on power. The sword in his hand is more a prop than a weapon, and no amount of silk or gold can camouflage the looming collapse. Laurens wasn't just painting the past. He was warning his own time. No empire, he seemed to say, is too big to fall.

The rise and fall of empire

A century before Laurens, across the Channel, Edward Gibbon had already chronicled the fall of Rome in *The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire* (1776–1788), attributing its demise to moral decay and barbarian invasions. He mourned the slow unravelling of an empire that had deemed itself eternal. Laurens merely painted what was already written. Both artist and historian engaged with Greco-Roman antiquity not merely as a subject of study but as a legacy crucial to Europe's preoccupation with its racial genealogy. However, even as they traced their lineage to its grandeur, they cast its decline as a warning to their own time. They aimed not merely to inherit Rome's legacy but also to reshape history itself, declaring in the process, the tenacity of their empire.

The Rome they evoke is one of poets and emperors, a city that witnessed the genius of Virgil, Horace, and Ovid – a Rome shaped by Augustus Caesar. If Honorius marked the empire's decline, Augustus announced its ascent. As Rome's first emperor, he forged an empire from the remnants of a republic. It is a rule invoked in Virgil's *Aeneid* and consecrated by it. Virgil's grand epic attested that even the most formidable sovereigns required literature to secure their power. In contrast, Ovid's *Metamorphoses* emerged as the anti-epic, dismantling, as it did, the logic of empire. What Virgil built, Ovid 'unbuilt'.

View from the subcontinent

Years ago, Ovid entered the early English Honours syllabus at Delhi University. His was an ancient voice among young undergraduate minds, and despite all odds, it left them quietly transformed. He spoke to them in a language of power and authority, and of the uneasy ties both held with the act of writing.

Born on March 20, 43 BC into an aristocratic family, Ovid came of age during Rome's political upheavals but found his footing in the stability of Augustus' reign. Shunning a public career, he devoted himself to writing poetry that undermined with the empire's moral imperatives. His *Amores* disregarded the call for patriotic verse. At the same time, the irreverent *Ars Amatoria* diluted the Augustan vision of marriage as a civic duty. By 8 CE, Augustus, dismayed by his granddaughter Julia Minor's sexual misadventures, denounced Ovid's work as a subversive influence. Condemned for immorality and a second, more elusive charge, possibly political, he was banished by the Emperor to Tomis. The term tyrant is frequently invoked, but in Augustus' case, it may not have been entirely unwarranted.

In this light, Ovid's *Metamorphoses* is more than a narrative of myths; it is a reckoning with power, a meditation on change. Of the proud and the meek. Of the rise of the reviled and the fall of the mighty. The gods, indifferent and cruel, play with human fate. Jupiter, the king of the gods, is both incredible and deplorable. Moral order gives way, not to chaos, but into a world unsettled by enduring transformation. The revolutionary morality of Metamorphoses underscored the futility of rulers – Augustus chief among them – pursuing absolute power. To read Ovid is to engage with volatility. He demonstrated how empires validated themselves and how they inevitably faltered. Ovid, we realise, was a victim of censorship, but he wasn't a perfect victim. He spent his days in Tomis pleading for imperial favour. His pleas went unanswered. Nevertheless, Ovid's work offers an enduring lesson.

Ovid in a classroom in Delhi

In 2018, Andrew Anglin, founder of the neo-Nazi (anti-immigration, and Islamophobic) website *The Daily Stormer*, invoked Augustus to laud Trump's immigration policies, arguing that ICE should be refashioned into the American President's Praetorian Guard. The last few weeks have taught us that this is less improbable than it sounds. Morality, sexuality, and immigration haunt the minds of leaders who dread being questioned. The alt-right and neo-Nazi movements have resurrected the classical past and distorted it, shaping it into a myth that upholds illusions of Western supremacy. To read Ovid from the Global South is to summon a counter-narrative; one that pries Greco-Roman antiquity from the hold of Western exceptionalism and restores it to a shared, contested part of human history.

Not long ago, before the introduction of the National Education Policy and the systematic reshaping of the syllabus, we used to read the *Metamorphoses* at the University of Delhi. Through him, our classrooms examined the empire of Augustus, a realm conjured by myth and sustained through its telling. To first-year undergraduate students, Ovid was the primer to literature's paradox. Writing, they learnt, did not merely uphold authority; it exposed its fragility. Writers, we realised, were not necessarily heroes. And for this reason, reading was never just reading. It became a relentless force, wearing down institutions that once seemed unshakable. It was a tribute to the written word and the restless spirit of inquiry that had shaped our progress. It eroded the foundations of inherited truths and fixed morality, turning classrooms into sites of contestation, where old certainties were unmade and new ideas slowly and deliberately took form.

The writer teaches Literature at Lady Shri Ram College.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

American Airlines completed its acquisition of Trans World Airlines and became the world's largest airline on this day in 2001. Here is a quiz on different airlines

Sindhu Nagaraj

QUESTION 1

This airline operates scheduled services to 352 destinations (including cargo) in Europe, Asia, Oceania, Africa, and the Americas. The airline serves more destinations non-stop from a single airport than any other airline in the world and flies to 131 countries, more than any other airline. It is the flag carrier of Turkey. Name the airline.

QUESTION 2

This is a French-Dutch multinational airline holding company, with three major brands. The company is a result of a 2004 merger between two French and Dutch companies. Name the company.

QUESTION 3

This is the largest airline in West Asia, the world's third-largest airline by scheduled revenue passenger-kilometres flown, and the second-largest in terms of freight tonne-kilometres flown. Which is it?

QUESTION 4

This was an Indian airline headquartered in Mumbai that operated from 1993 to 1997. It was founded by brothers Parvez and Vispi. Name the now defunct airline.

QUESTION 5

This is one of the oldest airlines in the world. It carries the tagline "Airways of the Americas". It was initially registered under the name SCADTA in 1919. Name the airline.

QUESTION 6

The airline Aeroflot is an old one, formed in 1932. It has two subsidiaries: Pobeda and Rossiya Airlines. Which country is Aeroflot the flag carrier of?

Visual question:
Identify the airline from the image.

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. This literary magazine was edited by Chattopadhyay. **Ans: *Bangadarshan***
2. Vande Mataram was first published as part of this novel. **Ans: *Anandamath***
3. In 2018, the Home Minister said that this specific event could have been avoided if the Congress had adopted the entirety of Vande Mataram. **Ans: Partition**
4. Tagore once referred to Chattopadhyay by this Sanskrit term. **Ans: Sabyasachi which means ambidextrous**
5. This Vaishnava religious movement inspired Chattopadhyay deeply. **Ans: Gaudiya Vaishnava tradition**
Visual: Identify this place. **Ans: Vande Mataram Bhavan**
Early Birds: Pranab Biswas| Tamal Biswas| Dodo Jayaditya| Sonali Das| Sumana Dutta

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian
S. Upendran

"What would you have done?"
"Well, I would have..."
"...asked him to go home, right? That's what I did and then..."
"...don't try to second guess me."
"Second guess you? What does it mean?"
"One of the meanings of 'second guess' is to 'predict something or outguess someone!"
"In other words. I try to guess what's going on in your mind."
"That's right! For example, I can say, the police tried to second guess the murderer's next move."
"Can I say, my mother always tries to second guess my father?"
"You can. And while we are on the subject of your mother, did she bring back anything from Arunachal Pradesh?"
"Yes, she did. She brought back a very nice rocking chair and my grandmother has..."
"...earmarked it for herself, right?"
"Has what?"
"Earmarked it for herself. When you 'earmark' something for yourself, it means you have reserved it for yourself. For example, whenever a big event is held, some of the best seats are earmarked for politicians."
"I'm told that a few seats in schools and colleges are always earmarked for them."
"That's true. Here's another example. When we travel, my sister always earmarks a window seat for herself."
"In our family, the window seat is earmarked for my father."
"What does he do? Read a magazine?"
"No. He does crossword puzzles."
"Doing the crossword puzzle must be 'duck soup for him'."
"Duck soup! My father is a vegetarian, you know!"
"I know. When you say something is 'duck soup,' it means you think it's very easy. For example, for my aunt, knitting a sweater is duck soup."
"Meaning, she finds it easy to knit sweaters?"
"Exactly!"
"Can I say, for people like Edberg and Seles playing tennis is duck soup."
"I suppose you could. But remember, 'duck soup' is used in informal contexts."
"I wonder when I'll be able to say, doing problems in chemistry and physics is duck soup."
"Probably never."
"Some friend you are!"
Published in The Hindu on January 30, 1996.

Word of the day

Malleable:
easily influenced; capable of being shaped or bent or drawn out

Synonyms: ductile, pliable, tensile, tractile

Usage: *The crowds are very malleable.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/malleablepro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈmæl.iː.ə.bəl/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

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A BG-BGE

Now, you will be able to take a guided tour of Vidhana Soudha

During the tour, visitors will get information about its history, interiors, archives, and the functioning of the government, says an official of the Tourism Department; details such as ticket price, gate for entry are being worked out

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

From next month, tourists coming to Bengaluru will be able to go on a guided tour of the iconic landmark Vidhana Soudha. This follows the State government giving its approval to the Tourism Department's proposal for the guided tour.

The officials of the Tourism Department said that the concept of conducting a tour of governing centres is popular abroad as well as in Delhi where visitors can get a tour of Rastrapathi Bhavan.

The colourful permanent lighting of the Vidhana Soudha was inaugurated recently. K. MURALI KUMAR

History, archives

"Vidhana Soudha is a historical monument in Bengaluru. During the tour, we want to give visitors more information about its history, interiors, historical elements, archives, and the functioning of the government. We want to conduct guided tours and we have prepared an internal circuit for it," said a senior official from the Department.

While many details such as ticket prices, gate for entry, etc., are being worked out, the Tourism Department plans to divide the time into many slots between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. "For security reasons, we don't want people to throng the venue all at once. We want tourists to get a good, informational experience. Our plan is to take 30 people in at a time for a one-hour tour," the senior official said.

Security features

The guides of each group will submit information about the visitors in their batches to security officials of Vidhana Soudha on the same day of the visit. The visitors should mandatorily have a government ID proof like Aadhaar Card or Voter's ID to enter the premises.

On April 6, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah inaugurated the permanent lighting system at Vidhana Soudha which will be turned on during weekends and on special occasions.

'Why the fee?'

However, many people have questioned why there should be an entry fee to get a tour of the governing centre of the State, which is not the case in other countries.

'Waqf board controversy a textbook example of BJP spreading false narratives'

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar were among the leaders in attendance at the Congress Working Committee meeting, at Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Memorial in Ahmedabad on Tuesday. PTI

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Tuesday said that the recent waqf board controversy is a textbook example of BJP leaders spreading false narratives to target Muslims, creating imaginary enemies, and turning neighbourhoods into battlefields instead of addressing real issues such as poverty, unemployment, and farmer distress. The just concluded Parliament session amended the Waqf Board Act.

Delivering a speech at the Congress Working Committee meeting at Ahmedabad, Siddaramaiah said, "There is a deliberate attempt to poison young minds. History is being rewritten, facts are being twisted, and communities are being pitted against one another in the name of nationalism and religion."

He said India does not need more walls and it needs more bridges. "India does not need more hate. It needs more hope... The Congress stands for all Indians - Hindus, Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Jains, Buddhists - for we see them not as vote banks, but as equal citizens of one great nation."

Party organisation

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, who was also at the AICC meet, said that the meet would discuss the strengthening of the party at the grassroots. "The Belagavi AICC session declared this year as 'the year of organisation'. The Ahmedabad meet will discuss strengthening the party at the block, taluk and district levels," he said.

"Several changes are being brought to the party organisation. The responsibility of growing the organisation is on party workers," the KPCC chief said.

Various aspects of organisation building would be discussed under the leadership of AICC Chief Mallikarjun Kharge and Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi.

On price rise

Replying to a query on the protests by the BJP against price rise, the Deputy Chief Minister said, "I welcome their protest. Their protest will make them understand the public anger against the Union government's decision to increase the prices of LPG, petrol, and diesel."

Two-thirds of bottled water samples unsafe for drinking, finds Health Department

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Two-thirds of the samples of bottled water collected from across Karnataka for quality analysis are unsafe for drinking, Health and Family Welfare Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao said on Tuesday.

"As part of a special campaign in February 2025, 296 drinking water bottle samples were collected for analysis. As many as 255 samples have been analysed so far, and 72 of them were found to be safe (28%), 95 were unsafe, and 88 samples were of substandard quality. The analysis of the remaining samples is in progress," Mr. Rao told reporters here. The State's Food Safety and Drug Administration would take samples from bottled water companies before initiating legal action against those that supply poor-quality water. "We have taken only survey samples. Once we get legal samples, we can book cases against the manufacturers," he said. "The chemical contaminants found in the water samples include pesticide residues, fluoride, and total dissolved solids such as calcium and magnesium," the Minister said. Most of the samples collected were from local manufacturers, while national-level brands had better standards, he said.

Only 72 of the 255 samples analysed in Karnataka were found to be safe. FILE PHOTO

Fried green peas

To verify the use of artificial colours in fried green peas, he said 115 samples were collected and sent for analysis. Almost 70% of the samples were found unsafe for consumption. Only 46 samples were safe, the Minister said.

At a special drive conducted to recall sub-standard quality drugs, he said ₹24,29,479 worth of inferior quality drugs were recalled from the market in February and March 2025.

Samples of local brands of juice/beverage were collected and sent for analysis, and the results are awaited, he said. A fine was imposed on some food production/sales units of juices, ice candy, and ice-creams for violation of rules, he said.

Hotels issued notices

On hotels and quality of food supplied, the Minister said 590 hotels/restaurants were inspected to assess pest control measures for cockroaches, rodents, and other insects. Notices were issued to 214 hotels/restaurants for non-compliance, and 11 establishments were fined ₹1,15,000, he said.

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DIPR/1419/Tender/2025

HC directs KPSC to set up exam centre for pregnant woman in Kalaburagi

FROM THE COURT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has directed the Karnataka Public Service Commission (KPSC) to conduct main exams at Kalaburagi for the selection of candidates to Gazetted Probationers Group A and B posts to enable a pregnant woman to write exams as she is medically not fit to travel either to Bengaluru or Dharwad, which are the only two cities where examination centres are being set up.

The KPSC has also been directed to inform the candidate by April 9 about the centre at Kalaburagi she should attend the examinations at. The exams are scheduled to be held between April 15 and 19.

Money on elections

"Our country is spending crores of rupees on conducting elections and byeelections, if required. Due to lack of planning and vision, public money is frequently put to waste," the court pointed out, after the KPSC contended that it cannot spend money to make elaborate arrangements to conduct an exam for a single deserving candidate at Kalaburagi.

Justice Chillakur Sumalatha issued the directions while allowing a petition filed by 31-year-old Mahalaxmi, a resident of Kalaburagi, who is an advanced stage of pregnancy. The petitioner had sought a direction to the KPSC to permit her to write the exam in Kalaburagi as the doctor has advised her not to travel as travelling at this condition would pose a risk to her health.

The KPSC had told the court that petitioner had to attend the exams at designated centre in Bengaluru or Dharwad as per the norms and no separate arrangement could be made for her at Kalaburagi.

The court said that the makers of the Constitution, considering the fact that women require special treatment, have envisaged certain privileges exclusively for women.

Constitutional provision

Noting various provisions of the Constitution that not only gives equal opportunity to women but also empowers the State to make special provisions for women and children, the court said that denial of an opportunity to the petitioner certainly amounted to violation of her fundamental rights guaranteed under Articles 14 (equality before law), 15(3) (allowing special provisions for women and children) and 16 (equal opportunity in public employment).

The High Court also noted that the petitioner is not seeking a direction to conduct exams at a place where there are no public offices, no electricity supply or where closed circuit cameras cannot be arranged. Therefore, it said, the KPSC cannot deny taking the responsibility of conducting exams to the petitioner at the city where she stays in the light of the justifiable grounds that she has projected.

Sexual assault case: Home Minister regrets statement

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Home Minister G. Parameshwara, who had come under fire over his comment on a sexual assault case in Bengaluru, has expressed regret for his statements.

Responding to media queries over a woman being molested by an unidentified man in BTM Layout, Mr. Parameshwara, while saying he had instructed the city police to strengthen the beat system, had also said that such incidents happen in a big city like Bengaluru, drawing the ire of many, including the opposition BJP.

Issuing a clarification on Tuesday, Mr. Parameshwara said his statement was misinterpreted and taken out of context. "Whenever I have been Home Minister, I have always prioritised women's safety. I have also asked the police to strengthen the beat system. But if my statement has hurt any women, not the Opposition, I regret it," he said.

G. Parameshwara

Meanwhile, the Suddaguntepalya Police, who have taken up a *suo motu* case, have reportedly rounded off a suspect in the case. "But the victim does not want to pursue the case. The two women are not able to identify the suspect. So we are now trying to get technical evidence to prove that he was indeed the culprit, before arresting him," a senior police official said.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Office of the Engineer-in-Chief,
Planning and Road Asset Management Center (PRAMC),
PWD Annex Building, K.R.Circle, Bangalore-01.

No.EIC/PWD/04/PRAMC/2025-26/36 Date: 07.04.2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Executive Engineer, PRAMC, KPWD on behalf of Governor of Karnataka, invites Short Term Tender Notification for Six Road Safety work one each in Udupi, Kolar, Ramanagara and Vijayapura District and two in Bagalakote District. Further details can be obtained from Karnataka KPPP portal **(www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** from **07.04.2025 05.30 PM** Onwards.

DIPR/CP/AAA/140/2025-26

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
PRAMC, KPWD, Bangalore.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

It is with deep regret we announce the demise of

Dr. Thomas Chandy

13/10/1949 - 07/04/2025

Chairman and Managing Director &
Chief Of Orthopaedics
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Viewing on 11th April 2025 at HOSMAT HOSPITAL,
Magrath Road between 7 am - 10.00 am
Followed by Funeral service at **10.30 am**
at **St. Patrick's Church, Brigade Road**
Burial at the **Catholic Cemetry, Hosur Road**

Fondly remembered by:
Anisha, Armand, Jonathan, Aaron & Caleb

Is Yogaraj Bhat feeling the burden of expectations?

Seasoned Kannada filmmaker Yogaraj Bhat, whose latest film 'Manada Kadalu' hit the screens recently, talks about evolving as a director and staying relevant in the industry

INTERVIEW

Yogaraj Bhat

Vivek M.V.
BENGALURU

Behind the scenes from the Kannada film *Mungaru Male*. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

A still from the film *Paramathma*. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Sumukha and Rashika Shetty in *Manada Kadalu*. YOUTUBE

Ganesh and Pooja Gandhi in the film *Mungaru Male*.

A still from *Mungaru Male*. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

In 2006, Yogaraj Bhat brought the crowd back to theatres with his refreshing *Mungaru Male* (starring Ganesh and Pooja Gandhi), which broke several box office records on its way to a 1-year run in theatres. Bhat and his friend Suri (*Duniya*) were refreshing additions to an industry struggling with a creative rut.

Close to two decades later, Bhat is striving hard to impress the changing audience. His latest, *Manada Kadalu,* is relevant to the current generation he says. The movie, starring Sumukha, Anjali Anish, and Rashika Shetty, hit the screens on March 28, 2025.

"It's about a young MBBS student who faces pressure from parents and society to succeed, so much so that he begins to start hating the system," he says about the film. The director opens up on the challenges of reinventing himself and keeping the audience's faith in him intact.

Excerpts from the conversation:

Isn't it unfair that every film of yours is compared with 'Mungaru Male'?
Whatever I do, it's always compared with *Mungaru Male*. I have even met people who have told me I haven't made a movie better than that. So, audiences are tricky, and I fear them a lot. It's good not to take them for granted. If I have a condescending attitude towards them, I will lose them permanently. They will start trusting films made in other languages.

Have you found a way to handle expectations?
Imagine one film having the impact of six blockbuster movies. That's what 'Mungaru Male' did to the industry. If you reach the peak early in your career, your graph must go beyond that. In a way, it's good to know that people wait for your movies. At the same time, I can't stop making films fearing expectations. If I had to escape this scenario, I should have quit filmmaking forever and started a restaurant.

You have been around for two decades in the industry. When you see youngsters succeed, do you feel the pressure to match up to them?
People are lenient with newcomers, and that's justified. They get accepted with grace marks for their attempts. My minute blunders get highlighted and criticised because I am very experienced. When a young filmmaker succeeds, I receive phone calls from critics and industry members asking me to feel inspired by them. My works get compared with theirs. That said, I have rallied behind several gifted rookie directors because I was also once a youngster with great energy to make a difference in the industry.

You made two back-to-back entertainers ('Mungaru Male' and 'Gaalipata') without a definite plot structure. Were you at your best as a writer back then?
I can never call myself a perfect writer, but I think I have cracked poetry/lyric writing. While writing a song, I wrestle with my thoughts and bring out my maximum creativity to produce seven to eight lines. Many things are unsaid in a song, yet people must understand the lines. A song cannot be too academic. I think I have learnt to balance these two aspects. However, I am still learning to write the perfect script. There are hundreds of books on writing a screenplay. When do you introduce a conflict? Should the protagonist always have a purpose? Why should there be a love story in commercial movies? I keep thinking about these aspects of storytelling. I get questioned about why I don't stick to the so-called traditional grammar of a film's structure. I want to attempt a film on the unexplored emotions of human beings.

Do you still write on sets? Directors like Vetrimaaran in Tamil adapts to the location and actors and writes dialogues on sets...
I started writing dialogues on sets after watching Suri do it for *Junglee* (2009). The film won the State Award for Best Screenplay. When I saw the movie on the editing table, I was shocked to see how effective the dialogues were. I wrote *Mungaru Male*, *Pancharangi*, *Paramathma*, and *Drama* on sets. I had a basic one-line story for those films. In one way, it's effective because you sometimes get your best when you are spontaneous. I stopped this habit because the team suffered a lot. It's torture for the actors to wait for the dialogues as they are ready to enact a scene. I had to respect their time and energy. A slight modification to the dialogues is okay, but I have stopped taking the risk of writing the entire movie on the sets.

Songs in your films continue to make waves. Why do you have a female version of some of the prominent songs in your movies? Not many directors opt for that...
Majority of the people are chauvinistic in society. They prefer male-centric content, including machoism. And generally, songs from a male voice have been traditionally accepted in cinema. However, if women has to hum a song, then they need songs that are specially composed for them. Lata Mangeshkar in the past and Shreya Ghoshal in the present are popular because of their ability to cater to the female fans. Their songs are evergreen because the female voice has a special frequency. Even the lyrics, written for a female playback singer, are quite unique when compared with the male version.

That said, can you ever do a film without songs?
I keep thinking about a film without a song. However, I have a special connection with people as a lyricist. They expect a lot from my songs. Abandoning music in movies will be like cutting a strong link with the audience. Yet, I might use songs as a promotional tool and make a movie without any songs.

Yograj Bhat

Over the years, the Puneeth Rajkumar-starrer 'Paramathma' has been your most talked-about movie. Were you disappointed when it didn't do well in theatres?
I wish it had done well when it was released. So many scenes from the film are shared today on social media. Recently, we visited a medical college to promote *Manada Kadalu*. After interacting with the students, I was smoking outside the college when I saw a student walking past me. She looked disturbed for some reason. When she saw me, she smiled as she said 'Paramathma'. That's the impact of the movie. For some, whatever films I do, *Paramathma* will remain their favourite. Perhaps, when the movie was released, people didn't have the mindset to take the film's subject. Some films will eventually find their audience. *Paramathma* has achieved that.

Climate Incubation Hub launched by HUL and NSRCEL-IIM-B

The incubation hub will primarily focus on start-ups working in key environmental areas such as climate, nature, and plastics circularity

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL), in collaboration with Nadathur S. Raghavan Centre for Entrepreneurial Learning (NSRCEL), the start-up hub at IIM Bangalore, has launched the Climate Incubation Hub. It is a collaborative programme between industry and academia to nurture Indian start-ups to advance climate-innovations in India.

Climate Challenges
"The Climate Incubation Hub aims to foster scalable solutions that address critical climate challenges, enabling start-ups to create transformational and sustainable environmental impact," said a press release.

The Climate Incubation Hub will primarily focus on start-ups working in key environmental areas such as climate, nature and plastics circularity. This will include regenerative and climate-smart agriculture, waste-to-value technologies to reduce emissions, alternative energy and clean technology, bioenergy & biomass solutions, and more

B.P. Biddappa, Executive Director and Chief People, Transformation and Sustainability Officer at HUL said, "Our collaboration with IIM-B's NSRCEL to scale innovative solutions addressing the urgent effects of climate change is a testament to our commitment to sustainability, while also contributing to India's long-term vision of Viksit Bharat". Participants will gain a tailored mentorship from IIM faculty and industry leaders. A key focus of the program is ensuring start-ups achieve a strong product-market fit.

Participants will gain a tailored mentorship from IIM faculty and industry leaders. GETTY IMAGES

Anand Sri Ganesh, CEO of NSRCEL, said, "This collaboration enhances our ability to identify and nurture climate innovators, and we are excited to work together in accelerating impactful solutions. Through this initiative, we aim to create a dynamic network of startups dedicated to addressing climate challenges and driving the widespread adoption of sustainable practices."

Additionally, the programme will offer a grant opportunity to up to 15 start-ups to help them scale their solutions.

The programme emphasises building robust governance frameworks and developing sustainable business models to ensure long-term scalability and impact.

Start-ups will also participate in industry networking events to present their innovations to potential investors and key stakeholders.

This critical opportunity allows ventures to gain visibility, secure funding, and further their mission of driving sustainable change.

The Climate Incubation Hub is designed for Indian start-ups that are at least one year old, have early revenues and a customer base.

This initiative is a step toward transforming the entrepreneurial landscape and positioning India as a hub for climate-positive solutions that will drive lasting environmental change.

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO APRIL 9, 1975

Belgaum: Former CM's plea to Union Home Minister

Bengaluru, April 8: Mr. Veerendra Patil, MP and President of the Karnataka Pradesh Congress (O) Committee, has urged the Union Home Minister, Mr. K. Bramananda Reddi, to come out with a statement whether there was any basis for the report that the Centre was contemplating to transfer Belgaum to Maharashtra.

Cauvery Water for Bangalore to be Resumed

Bangalore, April 8: The Municipal Administration Minister, Mr. Naikar assured the Legislative Council today that the pumping of Cauvery water had been resumed and the citizens of Bangalore would get the supply from the evening of Wednesday or Thursday morning. When pumping of Cauvery water was discontinued, water was supplied to Bangalore from the Arkavathi source only and certain areas experienced acute scarcity of water, for which he and the Government would express regret, the Minister said.

Our world Works of art by MTV Acharya. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

From once upon a time

An exhibition of drawings, sketches and paintings by MTV Acharya, illustrator of children's magazine *Chandamama*, is currently underway

Ruth Dhanaraj

The name *Chandamama* may ring a bell for those who grew up in the '60s and '70s; the children's magazine opened up a vista of mythological tales, magical kingdoms and fantastical adventures peopled by characters everyone could relate to.

With the entry of *Amar Chitra Katha, Indrajal Comics, Tinkle* and others, *Chandamama* lost the unique spot they occupied with young readers in India, and was eventually phased out.

While the magazine has been lost to the memories of a few, the works of its long-time artist MTV Acharaya have been brought out of oblivion, courtesy the single-handed efforts of one man – contemporary artist Shivanand Basavanthappa.

Spark of interest

Bengaluru-based Shivanand says Acharya passed away a few days after he joined the Govt Fine Arts College in Dharwad, as a student. He remembers feeling bereft that he had missed out on a chance to meet one of the most prolific artists of Karnataka; apart from his vast body of work, Acharya single-handedly illustrated the lion's share of images in *Chandamama*.

Chandamama which was originally launched in Telugu in 1947, went on to be published in 13 languages, including English, till its final edition in March 2013.

Over the years, serendipity has played a huge part in ensuring Acharya's works reached Shivanand, in a manner no less wonderful than those tales he picturised. "I would regularly visit a close associate of mine, artist MB Patil from Karnataka, in his studio where we would discuss art. During one of my visits, I asked him if he knew anything about Acharya. He answered saying the house and studio was the family home of Vijayalakshmi, Acharya's wife."

That was where Shivanand's research on the artist began, and he says that, "it seemed everything I would turn to whether books, magazines or galleries, would provide information or an insight into Acharya."

Mother lode

One day someone requested Shivanand's help in valuing a few paintings to ascertain if they were indeed executed by the master. "I agreed thinking there would be a one or two paintings. Only when I got there did I realise that the person was in possession of over a 100 of Acharya's works."

However, after the valuation, Shivanand was made to run from pillar to post for payment. Exasperated and frustrated over the delay, when he demanded recompense he was told by the owner that the paintings were to be sold in bulk, and that Shivanand would be paid after the sale.

"I wasn't too happy that Acharya's work would be leaving this land, but there was not much I could do." However, that transaction too, seemed to stretch on for months, until finally Shivanand himself bought the whole lot.

When a struggling artist acquires another artist's works in bulk. one can only imagine the struggle for space to house everything. In the commotion, Shivanand did not realise a few paintings were missing.

A few years later, Shivanand was invited to the inauguration of a frame shop where he saw two original works by Acharya on display. "They seemed to me like the ones I had valued but I didn't give it much thought, especially since the store owner said a customer had sent them there to be framed."

The years went by and Shivanand was once again approached to value a set of paintings by Acharya. When he saw those images, Shivanand was convinced they were part of the original lot that he had first valued. "Still, to be sure, I dug out my notes and images from the first job to cross check and realised they were all (including the ones at the frame shop) what I had paid for."

On further questioning, he found out a few workmen at the first owner's place had helped themselves to around 30 paintings in lieu of payment he had reneged on. Of these, Shivanand was able to recover around 18 works.

Untiring passion

Shivanand travelled to Chennai where the artist had worked for almost 30 years, in his quest to learn more about Acharya and his life, "so I could establish a museum to house his works." In the next 10 years, Shivanand collected another 100 paintings by Acharya, sourced from collectors, antique stores and galleries.

Feeling he could do a lot more, Shivanand took to collecting *Chandamama* magazines. "Anke Gowda, a dear friend of mine from Pandavpura, near Srirangapatna in Mysore had amassed over 25 lakh books. I felt sure he'd have a few issues of *Chandamama* or other books illustrated by Acharya," says Shivanand.

In possession of such an enormous number of books, Anke could not remember if he had any or where they were, but he gave Shivanand a free hand to browse through his collection. Not surprisingly, Shivanand says, "the very first box I opened contained Acharya's works. I eventually found around 60 copies of *Chandamama* that were almost 70 years old."

Word soon spread among family, friends and students, and everyone who came across a work of art or illustrated book by Acharya, donated them to Shivanand.

It took Shivanand a greater part of three months to curate Life and Art of MTV Acharya, and the choice of venue, much like everything with regard to his expedition was fortuitous. "When we approached the Indian Institute of World Culture (IIWC), they were more than happy to host the exhibition. Venkatesh Prasad, secretary of IIWC, told us that in 1967, Acharya had an exhibition there that far exceeded expectations."

High-ceilinged palaces, curvaceous beauties with flowing tresses, beatific priests, brawny princes and villains on their majestic steeds in verdant woods, as well as scenes from pastoral India of yore and mythological stories of gods and goddesses that we know so well, skillfully executed in watercolour, are all on display at IIWC.

Life and Art of MTV Acharya is on at the the Indian Institute of World Culture till April 13. Entry free.

Telly, theatre and Bhansali

Shilpa Anandraj

Jayati Bhatia stepped into the world of television in the '90s and still rules the screen. She has been a constant in shows including *Kasautii Zindagii Kay*, *Jassi Jaisi Koi Nahin* and *Tu Tu Main Main*. She has also been part of streaming shows such as *Dahaad* and *Heeramandi*. Jayati shows her versatility in her diverse roles whether as the lead in her debut series, *Kanyadaan*, as badi maa in *Sasural Simran Ka 2* or as Phatto in *Heeramandi*.

Jayati was in Bengaluru for the musical, *Blame It On Bollywood*. Talking to Jayati over the phone gives you a sense of the actor's tight schedule and her skill at multitasking. One can hear the make-up artist's crisp instructions, as well as another voice, saying the shot is ready.

It was *Blame It on Bollywood's* 112th show in Bengaluru. "Even when you have repeat shows, as a theatre person, you approach each one as a new show. It has a new energy. You also make new mistakes and since theatre is live, every performance becomes different. You think you will act a certain way, but once on stage, it becomes a roller-coaster ride that can just take you anywhere. That is the most exciting part about theatre–while you are doing the same show over and over again, you feel like it's your very first show."

Being known for her television, theatre and dance work is an advantage, says Jayati. "I am not perceived as a new face on a web series. I bring a certain kind of experience in character building on set. Being a familiar face also helps break ice on new sets while bringing its share of adulation and love."

An actor of substance Jayati Bhatia in a scene from *Blame it on Bollywood.* SANDEEP SAXENA AND SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

About the stereotypical portrayal of women on the small screen, Jayati says, "Television is an aspirational space where the family stands by you when you need them and vice versa. When people tell me, women subjugating women on television is a menace, I ask them, 'Isn't this what is happening in families too?' Yes, we do present these scenes dramatically, yet, at the end of the day, the heroine of every show aspires to be educated, become financially independent and take care of the family."

Working with Sanjay Leela Bhansali on *Heeramandi* was amazing, Jayati says. "I was shivering with excitement on the first day on sets. I had worked with his leading ladies on *Saawariya, Goliyon Ki Raasleela Ram-Leela* and *Malaal*, for their character building and had met Bhansali."

Heeramandi, Jayati says, was a great opportunity. "Working with Manisha Koirala stumped me and reiterated my faith as an actor. She is such a big name and a wonderful actor, yet she was so invested in her character. This helped me perform with the same passion. There was a ripple effect as we resonated with each other as artistes."

Bhansali at work is like an artist, Jayati says. "He paints every frame. He has an eye for detail and is completely involved in his work. He demands the same level of commitment from his actors. I would watch in awe as he set up a sofa, adjusted a fold in a curtain or the way a dupatta is draped over an actor's shoulder." Bhansali would even choose costumes and work on the colouring of the fabric against the light and makeup, Jayati says. "Observing him at work has been fascinating and a great learning experience. I never once felt out of place, but was pushed towards excellence."

Bharat Dabholkar's style of working, says, Jayati, was a different ball game. "He and his team would be sharing noodles, coffee, joking and rehearsing. This was a fun aura. When I asked him why there was no seriousness, Bharat said he likes working in a college campus-like atmosphere, where people are having fun yet doing serious work. After that, I did not question him or his method."

Micro history The exhibition covers sites from all over India. REPRESENTATIONAL IMAGE

Pieces of history

A new exhibition featuring 11 micro-archiving projects from across South Asia opens on April 11, at 11am, running until 13 April, from 11am to 7pm daily.

The showcase, curated by Ishita Shah under the platform Curating for Culture, brings together archival work developed through the *Constructing Personal Archives 2024* programme.

The participating archivists have engaged with diverse sites – Andaman Islands, Bengaluru, Chennai, Dhaka, Irumbai, Muree Hills and Pune – each confronting the challenges of representing under-documented histories. The exhibition is structured as a preface to three days of walk-throughs and informal discussions that invite deeper engagement with the archives.

Projects on display include Karkis of Kumaon by Kritika Karki, which traces a century of family history across Uttarakhand; Dear Diary by Medha Nidhi S, which opens up a decade of personal diary entries chronicling girlhood; and When We Keep Walking by Paarvathi Om, which explores embodied memory through movement and reflection.

Other exhibits include Embracing Fatherhood by Partha Sarathi Sen Gupta, documenting male infertility and fatherhood through personal narrative and collaborative art; Archipelago of Remembrance by Raka Banerjee, based on black-and-white photographs of the Onge people in the Andamans; and The Pelathope Project by Shreya Krishnan, centred on a heritage home in Mylapore and the changing urban fabric of Chennai.

The exhibition examines what micro-archives can offer beyond storytelling – whether they can sustain networks, shift dominant narratives, and expand methods of documentation. By bringing these archives into one space, the showcase invites questions about identity, inheritance, and the everyday practices of memory making.

From April 11 to 13 at Bangalore International Centre, Domlur. Entry free. For more information, visit bangaloreinternationalcentre.org.

CITYBEATS

Fresh 'n' easy

ONGOING

Toscano has launched a summer menu, offering seasonal flavours. The menu is a part of the 'Beyond Caprese' series, which serves combinations such as a mango and melon salad with smoked fior di latte, sourdough filled with buffalo mozzarella and seasonal ingredients, and much more. Enjoy chocolate waffle cream cones, Nutella banana and strawberry crepes with vanilla ice cream for dessert.

Available at Toscano outlets in the city.

Prosperous start

APRIL 13

Coracle Bangalore is introducing a Vishu Feast, as a tribute to the Malayalee New Year. The sadya will be served on a plantain leaf, and will have dishes reflecting the flavours of the season – sweet, sour, salty, bitter and spicy. Relish traditional favourites such as *parippu, sambar, avial, erissery, olan, cakka pradhaman sharkaravaratti* and more.

At Coracle, BIC (Bangalore International Centre) Indiranagar. Call 9611652064.

Banu Mushtaq's *Heart Lamp* makes it to Booker shortlist

The Hindu Bureau
SHIVAMOGGA

Banu Mushtaq

Banu Mushtaq's collection of Kannada stories in translation, *Heart Lamp,* was shortlisted on Tuesday for the International Booker Prize. The book, among the six featured in this year's shortlist, made history as the first Kannada-language book to be shortlisted.

Heart Lamp, translated by Deepa Bhasthi, is a collection of 12 short stories written by Ms. Mushtaq between 1990 and 2023. Earlier, an English translation of a collection of her short stories, *Haseena and Other Stories,* won the English PEN translation award for the year 2024. That was also translated by Deepa Bhasthi.

Under the microscope

"From the too-perfect interiors of a Berlin apartment to a terrifying journey across the English Channel; from patriarchal communities in southern India to a futuristic world at the limits of our imagination; the six shortlisted books place a huge variety of human experiences under the microscope," the Booker Prize Foundation said in a statement announcing the shortlist.

"These are books about survival and self-preservation - about our indomitable instinct to keep going in the face of catastrophe, oppression, extinction, or hopelessness. In a world that can often seem full of despair, this is a shortlist that celebrates the human spirit - our capacity to endure and our impulse to live a better life," it added.

Remembering father

Responding to the news, Ms. Mushtaq said she was elated to find Kannada stories on the shortlist. On this momentous occasion of her literary career, she said, she would wish to recall the days when her father, S.A. Rehaman, admitted her to Kannada school.

"My father decided to send me to a Kannada school, against all odds. I remain grateful to him, and his decision introduced me to the world of Kannada. It is not just a language but a thinking process. Similarly, I am grateful to my husband, Mushtaq Mohiyuddin, who stood by me and supported my writing at difficult times," she said.

As her work has been shortlisted, she will have to travel to London to participate in the event when the winner will be announced on May 20.

HC confirms death to five in Hyderabad twin blasts case

The 2013 incident killed eight people and injured 130; life imprisonment will be completely futile as there is absolutely no chance of reformation or rehabilitation of the convicts, says High Court

Marri Ramu
HYDERABAD

A man seen distributing sweets at Dilsukhnagar after the verdict in the bomb blast case in Hyderabad on Tuesday. SIDDHANT THAKUR

The Telangana High Court on Tuesday confirmed the death sentence awarded by National Investigation Agency special court to five persons holding them guilty for the twin bombings at Dilsukhnagar, which killed eight persons and injured 130 others in 2013.

A Bench of Justices K. Lakshman and P. Sree Sudha, dismissed the criminal appeal petitions filed by the convicts and noted that the petitioners "failed to make any case warranting interference by this court" to set aside the special court's verdict delivered on December 13, 2016. The convicts can appeal to the Supreme Court within 30 days, the Bench said.

The prime accused in the case Mohd. Riyaz alias Riyaz Bhatkal is still absconding.

The verdict said, "We find that the trial court has properly appreciated the testimonies of witnesses and has recorded sound and tenable reasons for awarding the aforesaid sentences against the appellants".

The trial court's discretion in awarding the penalty cannot be said as arbitrary or unreasonable, the Bench said. Having referred to different aspects of the appeal petitions, ranging from whether it was rarest of the rare cases to award death sentence to minute details like the six bicycles the convicts had purchased to carry out the twin bombings, the Bench remarked that there "is absolutely no chance of reformation or rehabilitation" of the convicts.

"Life imprisonment would be completely futile since the sentencing aim of reformation is completely unachievable," the Bench observed.

Hours after the High Court upheld the death penalty for the convicts, people distributed sweets. However, a common feeling among all was that justice was delayed.

900 Kia car engines 'missing' from A.P. plant

K. Umashanker
PENUKONDA

Around 900 car engines, approximately worth ₹50 crore, were reported missing from Kia's manufacturing plant near Penukonda of Sri Sathya Sai district, during the last five years.

An FIR was filed, based on a complaint from the Kia management, 10 days ago, the police said. The revelation triggered a police investigation into the episode, believed to be a major security breach, with a possibility of an 'insider angle'.

According to the Penukonda police, Kia Motors lodged a complaint on March 19, following the detection of the missing goods during a regular internal inspection.

Superintendent of Police V. Ratna had immediately inspected the plant at Penukonda plant along with senior police officials, though it was projected as a regular visit.

Kia India manufacturing facility in Sri Sathya Sai District.

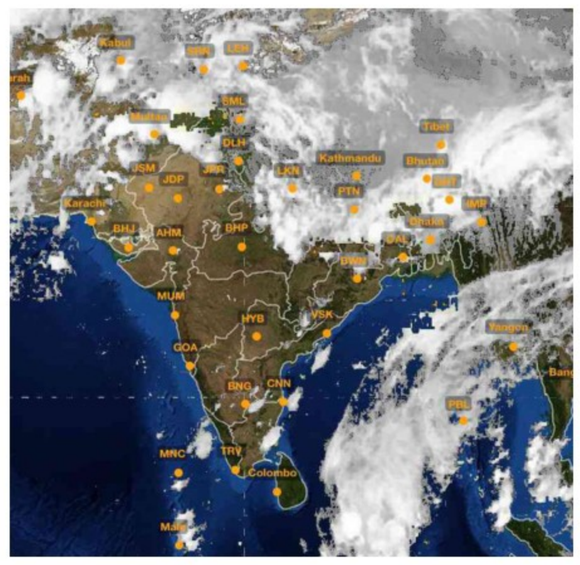
A preliminary enquiry observed that the theft might have occurred during the transportation of the engines from Chennai to Penukonda. "It's not done all at once. We have information that the plant delivers the engines to various outlets in the country after receiving the indents."

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Deputy SP (Penukonda Sub-Division) Y. Venkateshwarlu confirmed the complaint about the incident, and said that "we are thoroughly investigating the case".

The official did not rule out an "insider angle".

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Wednesday: Thunderstorm with lightning/gusty winds/hailstorm likely at isolated places over Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Bihar, Jharkhand, Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura, Sikkim, West Bengal, Odisha, Telangana, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Mahe

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	35.2	24.5	Kozhikode	—	35.0	28.0
Ahmedabad	—	43.0	25.8	Kurnool	—	39.4	26.3
Aizawl	—	33.5	20.0	Lucknow	—	38.0	25.8
Allahabad	—	40.2	23.7	Madurai	—	36.0	26.1
Bengaluru	—	35.1	22.4	Mangaluru	0.8	34.4	26.6
Bhopal	—	41.2	22.4	Mumbai	—	34.6	23.6
Bhubaneswar	—	35.9	25.6	Mysuru	—	39.0	22.0
Chandigarh	—	37.1	21.9	New Delhi	—	41.0	22.4
Chennai	—	35.3	26.7	Patna	—	36.0	26.8
Coimbatore	—	36.2	25.3	Port Blair	3	31.5	25.6
Dehradun	—	35.2	19.2	Puducherry	—	34.1	26.0
Gangtok	11	17.6	13.0	Pune	—	42.7	25.7
Goa	—	35.0	27.0	Raipur	—	39.8	26.7
Guwahati	—	35.4	24.0	Ranchi	—	35.4	21.6
Hubballi	—	39.0	24.0	Shillong	—	24.6	14.9
Hyderabad	0.2	36.2	24.4	Shimla	—	29.6	16.6
Imphal	—	32.1	16.9	Srinagar	—	24.4	10.3
Jaipur	—	42.0	26.4	Thiruvananthapuram	—	33.9	27.0
Kochi	—	33.4	26.6	Tiruchi	—	36.7	26.0
Kohima	—	24.5	16.0	Vijayawada	—	36.2	26.4
Kolkata	—	35.3	26.2	Visakhapatnam	—	35.0	26.9

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.32	..87	13	... 142	...118	
Bengaluru	...9	..22	28	 39	...120	
Chennai	.17	..15	79	 30	47	
Delhi	.41	125	73	... 237	...323	
Hyderabad	...6	..99	..8	 89	...106	
Kolkata	...6	..25	17	 59	59	
Lucknow	...7	..38	23	... 213	...232	
Mumbai	.28	..54	43	... 129	...114	
Pune	.17	154	45	... 190	...142	
Visakhapatnam	..—	..—	74	..... —	.....—	.....—

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Byrnihat, Assam recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 317 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Sri Vijaya Puram, Andaman & Nicobar Islands recorded a healthy AQI score of 23

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

AMARAVATI DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED(ADCL)
54-15-1, Venkateswara Nagar, Near Yalamanchili Complex, Sonovision Building, Ring Road, Vijayawada.

EPROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

S. No.	NIT No. & Name of Work	Estimated Contract Value
1.	**NIT No. 341/ADCL/IPD/2024-25 Dated: 07.04.2025** **Name of Work:** Construction of Road, Storm Water Drains and Utilities for E15 Road Extension to Old National Highway Mangalagiri on Lump sum basis (Percentage Tender) including DLP 2 Years in Andhra Pradesh (Package XXXXI) - Estimated Contract Value.	**Rs. 70.00 Crores**
2.	**NIT No. 342/ADCL/IPD/2024-25 Dated: 07.04.2025** **Name of Work:** Construction of Road, Storm water Drainage, and Utilities for E13 Road Extension to National Highway-16 on Lump sum Contract (Percentage Tender) including DLP 2 Years in Andhra Pradesh (Package XXXXII) - Estimated Contract Value.	**Rs. 384.78 Crores**

The bid can be downloaded on AP e-procurement portal **from 08.04.2025 to 23.04.2025 up to 15.30 Hrs.** Due date for submission of Bid is **23.04.2025 up to 16.00 Hrs,** Technical Bid opening is on **23.04.2025 @17.00 Hrs.** For further details please refer to **www.apeprocurement.gov.in** and **www.adcl.in**

Sd/- Chairperson and Managing Director, ADCL, Vijayawada

Andhra Pradesh State Civil Supplies Corporation Limited (APSCSCL)
(A State Government Undertaking)
Head Office: 10-152/1, Ashoknagar, Bandar Road, Vijayawada-520007

NATIONAL SHORT TENDER NOTICE

Lr.No.Mktg.M6/RG Dall/Tenders/June 25 to Aug 25 Date:06-04-2025

BIDS ARE INVITED FROM ELIGIBLE BIDDERS FOR SUPPLY OF 47,037 MTS (± 25%) OF R.G. Dall IN 1 KG PACKET FORM WITH SECONDARY PACKING IN 50KG NEW POLYPROPYLENE (PP) BAGS UNDER PDS FOR THE MONTHS OF JUNE 2025 TO AUGUST 2025 (Three Months) TO ALL THE MLS POINTS OF (26) DISTRICTS IN ANDHRA PRADESH STATE

All the interested R.G. Dall Manufacturers/Traders in All Over India may visit **www.apscscl.in & www.neml.in** to view and download tender documents at free of cost. Interested bidders need to register in portal as vendor with NCDEX e Markets Limited to participate in the tenders. **Contact Tel: 9962059599 or 9032429420 or 9885549722** and **Email: askus@neml.in.**

Last date for registration and completion of formalities for the e-auction shall be **up to 21.04.2025 at 5 p.m** and the tentative date of online e-auction through NeML platform would be **24.04.2025 & 25.04.2025.**

Sd/-
VC & Managing Director.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Padmanabhanagara Division, Opp. to Sagar Hospital, Kumaraswamy Layout, Bengaluru - 560 078.

No: EE(PN)/TEND/01/2025-26 **Date: 07.04.2025**

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Single Cover System and Two Tender Document System)

(Through **GOK** KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** only)

The Executive Engineer, Padmanabhanagara Division, BBMP, Bengaluru invites Tenders from eligible Contractors registered in Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike or equivalent registration with CPWD/KPWD/Railways/MES or any State Government Organizations for the constructions of works detailed in the table below.

Sl No.	Name of the works/Category
1.	Providing allied works to Ward Office Building at 7th Block Jayanagara in Ward No-190 Devagiri Temple Ward (4th Call) (Others) Approx.Value of Work: Rs.20.00 Lakhs, EMD: Rs.50,000/-
2.	Improvements to Roads and Drains at 32nd Cross, 14th Cross, 3rd Cross and A.K Colony in 7th Block Jayanagara and 3rd Main, 2nd Main, 3rd Main and 6th Main BSK 2nd Stage Karisandra and Surrounding areas in Ward No-190 Devagiri Temple Ward (4th Call) (Others) Approx.Value of Work: Rs.70.00 Lakhs, EMD: Rs.1,40,000/-

Calendar of Events : (1) Tenders must be submitted online through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement portal on or before **22.04.2025** at **4:00** pm. (2) Financial Bids will be opened (Sl No.01 work) in the Office of the Executive Engineer, Padmanabhanagara Division on or after **23.04.2025** at **4:05** pm. (3) Technical Bids will be opened (Sl No.02 work) in the Office of the Executive Engineer, Padmanabhanagara Division on or after **23.04.2025** at **4:05** pm. **Sd/- Executive Engineer, Padmanabhanagara Division**

Government of Karnataka
DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH EMPOWERMENT AND SPORTS
State Youth Centre, Nrupathunga Road, Bengaluru - 560001.
Tel : 080-22215601, 22211246, Fax: 080 22215602

No: DYES/ES/AP/271/2024-25 **Date: 02.04.2025**

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through E-Procurement Portal Only)

Subject:- The Deputy Director (Admn), Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports, State Youth Centre, Nrupathunga Road, Bangalore-560 001, KARNATAKA INDIA invites Tender to take up the Renovation of Kitchen and dining hall in the premises of government sports school, Kudige through E- Procurement Portal
Particulars : Renovation of Kitchen and dining hall in the premises of government sports school, Kudige. Tender Amount : **Rs. 23.18 Lakhs** EMD : **Rs 50,000.00 .**
Last Date and Time for Submission of bid: **17.04.2025 time 16.00 Hrs,** Last Date and Time for Opening of technical bid : **19.04.2025 time 16.30 Hrs.**
The Tender shall be submitted through e-Procurement Portal **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in).** Vendors need to register in the e-Procurement Portal to submit their bids online. The tender document can be viewed free of cost from the e-Procurement Portal. Additional information may be obtained during office hours at the above mentioned Address.

Sd/-
Deputy Director (Admin)
Dept. of Youth Empowerment and Sports
(Tender Inviting Authority)

DIPR/CP/146/Zen/2025-26

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture, (Mahadevapura Zone), Vengaiah Eco Park, K R Puram, Near Garuda Apartment, Bengaluru-560036

No. SADH(MDP)TENDER/10/2024-25 **Date : 07-04-2025**

LETTER OF INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT) - (SHORT TERM)
(SINGLE COVER SYSTEM) (Through GOK KPP Portal only)

The Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (Mahadevapura) (Referred to as Employer in these documents) invites tenders to Implement in accordance with KTPP rules 2000, from eligible and experienced Person / Agencies / Firms (Referred to as Tenderers in these documents) registered in Labour department for Providing Security Services and Park maintenance.

Sl.	Name of the Work
1	Providing Security Services to Parks Pertaining to Mahadevapura Assembly Constituency. **Estimated Cost :** Rs. 39,24,669.87 **EMD Amount :** Rs. 39,247/- Category : SC
2	Providing Security Services to Parks Pertaining to K R Pura Assembly Constituency. **Estimated Cost :** Rs. 39,24,669.87 **EMD Amount :** Rs. 39,247/- Category : ST
3	Maintenance of Park / Medians / Circles and boulevard in Ward No. 100 Mahadevapura Assembly Constituency. **Estimated Cost :** Rs. 23,90,000/- **EMD Amount :** Rs. 23,900/- Category : Others

Calendar of Events : (1) Tender Documents may be downloaded from Government of Karnataka KPP Portal website : **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home** under login for Contractors from **09-04-2025** **(2)** Tender Closing date : **17-04-2025 at 4.30 PM** **(3)** Technical Bid Opening date from **19-04-2025 at 11.30 AM (4)** Financial bid opening date : After Approval of Technical Bid.

Sd/- Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture, (Mahadevapura Zone)

Government of Karnataka
Office of Deputy Commissioner (District Urban Development Cell Haveri)
Ph.: 08375-249097, e-mail : eedudchaver@gmail.com

No.: DUDC/2024-25 Date : 07-04-2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Executive Engineer, District Urban Development Cell Haveri District invites e-tenders for Work Indent No. **DMA/2024-25/IND4383/ Call 2.** Interested contractor can download the tender documents from the e-procurement Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- (S.S. MATTIKATTI)
Executive Engineer
District Urban Development Cell
Haveri District, Haveri

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IN THE COURT OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONER & REVISIONAL AUTHORITY BENGALURU DIVISION, BENGALURU
RA/01/2025

BETWEEN:
Sri. Shankaranarayana.M.N, S/o Late. M.Nagesh Rao, aged about 74 Years, R/at No.1203, Edga Road, Varthur, Bengaluru-560 087. **...Petitioner**
AND:
1. The Special Deputy Commissioner-3, Bengaluru North Sub-Division, Bengaluru.
2. The Assistant Commissioner, Bengaluru North Sub-Division,Bengaluru.
3. The Thasildar, Bengaluru East Taluk, K.R Puram, Bengaluru District.
4. Sri. Govindaraju.M, S/o Late Chinnamma,R/at No.318, 3rd Cross, Chennakeshavanagar, Singasandra, Bengaluru-560 100. **...Respondents**

NOTICE TO THE RESPONDENT NO.4

Sri. Govindaraju. M, S/o Late Chinnamma, R/at No.318, 3rd Cross, Chennakeshavanagar, Singasandra, Bengaluru-560 100.

Whereas the Petitioner has instituted a review petition against you and others to set aside the order passed in RRT(2)(E)CR/16/2023-24 dated 06.05.2024 in respect of land bearing Sy.No.48(P), measuring to an extent of 2 acres of land situated at Mullur Village, Varthur Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, Bengaluru.

You are hereby summoned and duly instructed to appear before the above court in person or through an advocate on **19.04.2025 at 03:00 PM** failing which the matter will be heard and decided in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this court on this 5th day of April 2025.

***Sd/-* Regional Commissioner**
Bengaluru Division, Revenue Department and Nodal Officer, Ex-Officio Secretary (Economic Offences), Bengaluru

Advocate for the Petitioner:
SIVA LAW Associates,
No.22/2, 1st Floor, 7th Cross,
Behind Wilson Garden Police Station,
Bengaluru-560 027.

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORT CORPORATION (CHENNAI) LIMITED
PALLAVAN ILLAM, ANNA SALAI, CHENNAI - 600 002.

E-TENDER NOTICE

e-Tender are invited for the e-Procurement of **Provision of Services for Collection of Fares from Bus Operation of MTC(Chennai) Ltd** from the eligible tenderers who shall submit documentary evidence on Government e-procurement web portal **https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app.**

DESCRIPTION OF e-TENDER	E. M. D. Amount
Provision of Services for Collection of Fares from Bus Operation of MTC (Chennai) Ltd	**Rs.15,00,000/-**

Last date for submission of tender : **Upto 14.30 Hrs on 12.05.2025**
Date of opening : **At 15.00 Hrs on 12.05.2025**

EMD Details and other Tender related details is available in Government website **(https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app).** Any modification (if any) in tender terms and tender invitation period will be uploaded in the website and the tenderers are requested to go through the above website periodically.

DIPR/ 1448 /TENDER/2025 **MANAGING DIRECTOR**

KARNATAKA URBAN WATER SUPPLY & DRAINAGE BOARD
Ramakrishna Ashrama Road, Amarjyothi Nagar, TUMAKURU-572105. 0816-2200209

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through e-Procurement Portal only)

Name of work: Dismantling of existing 2.5LL RCC OHT and Construction of the 2.50LL RCC OHT at Kavalagere in Pavagada town under DC Works of TMC, Pavagada (Lumpsum tender -No Variation).
Tender Indent No.KUWSDB/2025-26/WS/WORK_INDENT336
Amount put to tender: Rs.63.70 Lakhs. (Excluding GST)
Calendar of Events: Last date and Time for receipt of Tenders: 22.04.2025 up to 5.30PM. Further details can be obtained by logging on to https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

SD/- Executive Engineer,
KUWS. & D.Board Division, TUMAKURU .

DIPR/TUM/11/KSMCA/2025-26

Government of Tamil Nadu
Highways Department
NABARD & Rural Roads Circle, Chengalpattu.

Tender Notice
Tender Notice No. 05 /2025-2026 / SDO /
Dated: 07.04.2025

For and on behalf of Governor of Tamil Nadu Percentage tender through online only will be received upto **13.05.2025,** 15.00 hours by the **Superintending Engineer (H) NABARD & Rural Roads, Chengalpattu Circle** for **One** work in respect of **Chengalpattu (H)** NABARD & Rural Roads Division under **SASCI – 2025-2026 - Upgradation of Panchayat Union roads and Panchayat Roads to ODR Standards.**

Details of works, approximate value of works, EMD, tender documents and all other details are available from **12.04.2025** onwards in the Government website **https://tntenders.gov.in** If any changes / Corrections / Amendments etc to the tender, it will be published on the above Government website only.

Superintending Engineer (H),
NABARD & Rural Roads Circle, Chengalpattu-1

DIPR/1421/Tender/2025

A regional revival

The BIMSTEC summit provided a platform for bilateral meetings

Last week's Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) summit – the sixth – which brought the leaders of seven neighbouring countries to Bangkok at a time of global turbulence, was an opportunity to reignite the regional grouping after years of stasis. Originally cast as a "bridging" mechanism between South Asia's SAARC and South East Asia's ASEAN countries, the grouping has languished due to a lack of purpose or due to political underpinnings. After the collapse of India-Pakistan ties, post-2014, SAARC has made little movement, whereas the micro-grouping of Bangladesh-Bhutan-India-Nepal ran aground after the Bhutanese Parliament rejected the Motor Vehicles Agreement between them, as a result of which New Delhi has invested in BIMSTEC. While the objective of having a summit every two years was derailed by the COVID-19 pandemic, what is important is that the summit was held in spite of a possible derailment after the earthquake in Myanmar and Thailand. But the summit proved useful, given the number of agreements and areas of cooperation. These include a BIMSTEC chamber of commerce and work on the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway that will connect India's North-East region, billed a BIMSTEC "hub", all the way to the Pacific ocean. The BIMSTEC region is prone to natural disasters and building a joint mechanism for disaster management is critical. Negotiating a free trade agreement (FTA) and Customs agreements are among other plans outlined in a 'Vision 2030' document that was adopted.

Apart from the multilateral outcomes, the summit provided the leaders a rare opportunity for bilateral meetings. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Bangladesh Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus put aside months of acrimony and aired their grievances over the treatment of minorities, border killings and former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's stay in India. Mr. Modi's advice that "rhetoric" must be avoided between neighbours is important, but must be followed in Dhaka and Delhi. Mr. Modi's meeting with Nepal leader K.P. Sharma Oli came after months of tensions over India's refusal to issue Mr. Oli an invite, and it is hoped that these exchanges will lead to an early visit and the resolution of issues. The inclusion of Myanmar's Prime Minister General Min Aung Hlaing was a special gesture by the BIMSTEC grouping, and it is hoped that Mr. Modi's counsel to Gen. Min and Mr. Yunus on restoring democratic processes in Myanmar and Bangladesh will be heeded. While the summit was productive, many of its initiatives are replicas of agreements once adopted by SAARC, and it is important that member-states focus on the group's cohesion and sustainability so that BIMSTEC is not allowed to atrophy the same way as SAARC did.

Long march ahead

The CPI(M) makes a shift in leadership as it seeks to retain relevance

In a world where the idea of state control of all economic activities is passé, and in a country where class differences have been overtaken by caste segmentations as entrenched identity markers, it is not a surprise that a party like the Communist Party of India (Marxist) has faced erosion in its support base and has struggled to retain a national presence. The refrain in the party's resolutions after the end of its 24th congress suggest that it is aware of its inability to garner adherents to its ideological cause. But it is also cognisant of the opportunities available to build a coherent narrative against the entrenchment of right-wing thought and ideology in a polity dominated by the BJP. By articulating a strong position on issues related to federalism, civil liberties, gender rights, social justice, communal harmony, and collective action, and arguing against concentration of resources and wealth among a tiny elite, the party seeks to stay relevant as an anchor of a distinct ideological pole. What the party has been unable to do is to convert opportunities into steadfast action. It has elected a new general secretary, M.A. Baby, a long-time politburo member and leader from Kerala. Perhaps this transition from an earlier leadership that cut its teeth in student politics at the Jawaharlal Nehru University and provided ideological mettle to the party but lacked direct experience in mass and electoral politics, will help it. However, this requires fresh agency.

Mr. Baby will face a Herculean task in reviving the party's electoral fortunes. The only government that it leads today, the Left Democratic Front in Kerala, faces anti-incumbency as elections are due next year. In other erstwhile strongholds, West Bengal and Tripura, it has faced a dramatic decline and has not shown any urgency in reviving its lost fortunes. The CPI(M) today realises the need for an independent mobilisation that asserts its principles and ideology while not ruling out electoral alliances to take on the hegemonic BJP. Its fleeting electoral success elsewhere in the country has been made possible through a combination of progressive agitations and deft alliances with parties such as the DMK in Tamil Nadu and the Congress in Rajasthan. Yet, to attract more support for its ideological positions, the party must also adapt to present-day realities in a manner that differentiates it from other legatees of the global communist streams. It must shed the historical baggage of authoritarianism and flawed economic programmes that characterised a few of these streams, so as to make its agenda appealing to progressive-minded people who want to alter the status quo.

The gradual transformation of the Home Ministry

Abhishek M. Chaudhari

is currently pursuing public administration at the Harvard Kennedy School. He has an interest in politics, security, and technology

Governments are often judged by how well they react, but true leadership is about how well they reform. Ministries tend to excel in responding to crises such as managing disasters, controlling conflicts, and restoring law and order. While necessary, this approach only addresses immediate threats without securing long-term solutions. Reforms, on the other hand, shape governance for the future.

When Prime Minister Narendra Modi speaks of 'Reform, Perform, and Transform', he highlights the need for structural reforms rather than temporary fixes. This shift is very much visible in the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), which was traditionally seen as a 'Crisis Ministry,' stepping in when riots erupted, insurgencies escalated, or States faced governance failures. Its interventions were often reactive, tackling unrest rather than preventing it through institutional reforms.

A new focus

In recent years, the MHA has fundamentally transformed itself, moving from crisis response to building a structured security architecture. It now focuses on strengthening counter-terror laws, modernising agencies, adopting technology and improving intelligence coordination. From legislative overhauls to institutional restructuring, the Ministry is pre-empting threats, ensuring that India's internal security is future ready.

The MHA is the backbone of India's internal security and federal governance. Unlike many countries that divide security and governance, the MHA integrates them, making it a critical pillar of national stability. The Indian Constitution empowers the MHA through Articles 355, 256, and 356, ensuring Centre-State coordination on security matters.

The MHA's growth has largely been shaped by security challenges of the day. The rise of terrorism and insurgency since the 1980s led to increased security spending. Punjab's militancy, Kashmir's terrorism, and Maoist violence required direct intervention, as State police struggled to contain these threats. Many States were slow to modernise their police forces, increasing their reliance on the Central Armed Police Forces or the CAPFs (Assam Rifles; Border Security Force; Central Industrial Security Force, or CISF; Central Reserve Police Force; Indo-Tibetan Border Police; National Security Guard and Sashastra Seema Bal). Reliance on the Rapid Action Force (RAF) of the CRPF for riot control is one example..

Industrial unrest in the 1970s-80s had some role in the creation of the CISF – to manage strikes, particularly in West Bengal and Kerala.

There has been an evolution, from a crisis-response body to a structured and proactive institution

Meanwhile, administrative restructuring saw north-east affairs and the Department of Justice separated from the MHA, while Disaster Management and the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) were added.

For nearly four decades, India's three major security hotspots, i.e., Kashmir, the North-East, and Central India (Naxal areas) dominated the MHA's priorities, costing thousands of lives. The lives of nearly 36,000 personnel and an equal number of civilians have been lost, with security forces largely turning their focus on these conflict zones.

This focus on insurgency, terrorism and border security has meant that other critical areas such as police modernisation, agency coordination, narcotics control, technology adoption, disaster management and federal governance have received less attention.

Frequent leadership changes have historically affected the Home Ministry's policymaking. Indira Gandhi's third term and Rajiv Gandhi's tenure saw four Home Ministers, leading to instability in internal security reforms. It is only Prime Ministers P.V. Narasimha Rao and Atal Bihari Vajpayee who had a single Home Minister throughout their full tenure. Mr. Modi has maintained stability at the MHA, in a reinforcement of a long-term vision for internal security and governance.

Reforms and a shift in responses

On the legislative front, the MHA's earlier responses were largely event-driven. The Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act, or TADA, was enacted after the Punjab insurgency, the Prevention of Terrorism Act (POTA) after the 2001 Parliament attack, and the National Investigation Agency (NIA) was formed after the 26/11 Mumbai attacks. These laws, though critical, were reactive/reactions rather than being a part of a structured security framework. But since 2019, over 27 legislative reforms have established a strong security jurisprudence, shaping law enforcement and national stability. These include transformative changes in terror jurisprudence, Kashmir integration and the criminal justice system.

The idea of whole-of-government now drives a multi-agency approach, where legislative provisions are backed by operational strengthening, budgetary support and outcome-oriented reviews.

India has long faced terror threats, but past responses have often been short-sighted and temporary. The current Home Ministry has strengthened terror jurisprudence – amending the NIA Act and the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, or UAPA, by defining terrorism in Indian criminal law, and aiming to financially choke terror groups. But at the same time, this has been complemented by strengthening and expanding the NIA, creating technology databases, revamping the Multi-Agency Centre (MAC), and promoting a 'duty to share' intelligence culture.

A similar approach is visible in criminal justice system reforms. Three new criminal laws (the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam) have been enacted but their foundation was laid much earlier. There has also been the establishment of the National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU) and full implementation of the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems (CCTNS) which integrates 17,130 police stations, courts, jails and forensic laboratories. States are now encouraged to separate investigation from forensics, further strengthening the justice system.

In 2019, for the first time, the MHA budget crossed ₹1 lakh crore. The 2025 Budget allocation has surged to ₹2.33 lakh crore, reflecting the government's focus on internal security and modernisation. The expenditure on the Central Paramilitary Forces has also risen, from ₹38,000 crore in 2013-14 to ₹97,000 crore in 2024-25, highlighting the enhanced investment in national security and force modernisation.

Impact on the ground

The new approach has led to a significant reduction in violence across Kashmir, the North-East, and Naxal-affected areas. The dilution of Article 370, peace deals in the North-East, and a dual strategy of a filling up of security and development vacuums in Naxal-affected regions have collectively transformed India's internal security landscape. These measures have attempted full integration, political stability, and economic growth in conflict-prone areas. The impact is evident – violence across these three major hotspots has declined by 70%, incidents of stone pelting in Kashmir have declined, insurgency in the North-East has weakened, and Naxal strongholds are witnessing social transformation.

The MHA has evolved from a crisis-response body to a structured, proactive institution. By shifting from reactionary interventions to strategic reforms, it has strengthened India's internal security architecture and built a future-ready governance framework. The MHA is now preempting threats rather than merely responding to them, shaping India's internal security for the years ahead.

The Trump effect and a possible exodus of expertise

Atanu Biswas

is Professor of Statistics, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata

A LinkedIn post by a former student of the Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, currently employed as a postdoc in a university of repute in the United States, caught me off guard a few days ago. He is actively seeking new positions where he may be able to leverage his experience in the biotech, pharma, or health-care analytics domains. He is a student who completed his doctorate in the U.S. and has a stellar publication record. Is his case an example of an immediate consequence of the fund cutting and the curbing of academic freedom by the Trump administration?

The U.S. has for long been the world leader in almost every area of research. The National Science Foundation (NSF), which was established in 1950, marked the beginning of the modern American research university. The National Institutes of Health (NIH), which go back to the late-19th century, saw significant expansion in the post-war years. Together, these two organisations transformed previously underperforming American scientific institutions into becoming the world's pre-eminent research universities.

Disastrous disruptions

However, America's higher education is almost in a mess ever since Donald Trump returned to the White House. The U.S. academic community is moving away from fundamental ideas of democracy and freedom as a result of Mr. Trump's war on science. For example, Columbia University has agreed to enact a number of policy changes in response to threats from the Trump administration.

One research centre after another is being slashed or shut down by Mr. Trump and Elon Musk, whether it is at the NIH or the Environmental Protection Agency. Mr. Trump has made a move to completely dismantle the U.S. Department of Education. He has ordered widespread layoffs within federal science agencies, including senior positions at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

Donald Trump's 'assault on science' and the possibility of a U.S. research brain drain might have global repercussions

He has also terminated grants in specific research areas, taken unprecedented control over university affairs, and, in effect, threatened academic freedom.

Scientists who retain their jobs wonder whether they still have a place in American agencies and research institutes. There could be a fear of more hiring and funding freezes, data transfer limitations, and censorship related to gender studies, vaccine hesitancy, and climate change. The resultant rift in American society may continue and transform American culture for a generation even if the current university financing issue is resolved.

Early-career researchers are undoubtedly concerned about Mr. Trump's disruptions because job cuts in federal research agencies and universities may increase competition and uncertainty. It may also be confusing for lakhs of international students aspiring to pursue doctoral studies in the U.S.

There could be a 'research brain drain'

An editorial in the science journal, *Nature*, has described Mr. Trump's actions as an "assault on science". Science and its intrinsic economics, however, can still constitute the endless frontier. Mr. Trump's policies are expected to reshape global academic flows – a worldwide vacancy is opening up as a large-scale academic exodus from the U.S. seems inevitable.

The possibility of a U.S. research brain drain is undoubtedly an opening for Europe and the rest of the world to promote themselves as a safe haven for unrestricted, free scientific research. "We can suddenly recruit talent that we would not have been able to attract under normal circumstances," said Patrick Cramer, President of the Max Planck Society in Germany.

Michiel Scheffer of the European Innovation Council (EIC) announced on social media that "a concept" to invite scientists from the U.S. would be addressed in an April board meeting. The University of Aix-Marseille in France already announced "Safe Place for Science". It has been in contact with other universities and the French government about expanding "scientific asylum" on a national and a European level. Also, countries such as China and South Korea have vowed to increase their efforts to recruit researchers impacted by Mr. Trump's funding cuts. Some Ivy League professors, such as Yale University's Jason Stanley, are now moving to Canadian universities. Professor Stanley, incidentally, is the author of the book, *How Fascism Works* (2018).

The repercussions

What are the potential long-term effects? "Of a low dishonest decade:/Waves of anger and fear/Circulate over the bright/And darkened lands of the earth,/Obsessing our private lives." These lines from the 1930s European setting described by British-American poet W.H. Auden in his poem, "September 1, 1939", appear eerily applicable to America in the 2020s. Jews were denied the opportunity to work in universities in 1935 when the Nazis in Germany established the Nuremberg laws. As a result, approximately 2,600 Jewish scientists left Germany for Britain and America. While the science world was dominated by Germany up until 1935, the U.S. gained the leadership thereafter. Similar circumstances, but a reverse direction, of the academic exodus may ensue now.

Thus, Mr. Trump's "assault on science" might have global repercussions. However, the flip side is that it will put a great deal of pressure on universities and research institutions around the world, including India, where it will affect the job market. Europe might not be able to accommodate all U.S. researchers wishing to relocate at a time when many European universities are dealing with budget deficits in a post-COVID-19 pandemic era under the looming threat of recession. Further, given that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is in danger of disintegrating, European nations in particular may need to raise their defence budgets.

As a result, the Indian academic environment may also experience an inward rush – many scholars may want to return from the U.S. The shades of uncertainty remain in the U.S., in Europe, and in India too.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Scorching trade

April has turned out to be the cruellest month given the rapidity with which a trade war is unfolding globally on account of the Trump tariffs affecting global markets. The Trump tariffs are a problem as there is also a legal aspect, their permanence (will there be a political blowback after an upending of trade relations with the rest of the world?), and their effectiveness (how many American CEOs will decide to allocate billions of dollars towards new factories in the U.S.?) None of these also take into account the element of retaliation by others such as China and the European Union.
The U.S. has most definitely damaged its credibility as a sound trade partner.
Vijay Singh Adhikari,
Nainital, Uttarakhand

Help the NEET aspirant

The line in the Editorial (April 8), that Tamil Nadu should help "coach students to face NEET with confidence", must be taken seriously by the State government. Here are some steps. The book market has excellent study material in English for NEET. But there is none in Tamil. This needs to be looked into. There are websites in English which help students in NEET preparation, but there is nothing in Tamil. The Government must start uploading online study material to help students. The Chief Minister must stop talking about NEET exemption in public and devote his attention to helping many aspirants.
C. Sugumar,
Theriyur, Udangudi, Tamil Nadu

Corrections & Clarifications

The photo caption that accompanied a report, "Following public outcry, J&K panel meets stakeholders on quota issue" ('News' page, some editions, April 7, 2025) wrongly identified Farooq Abdullah as Omar Abdullah. The error was corrected in later editions.

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Strengthening enforcement of judicial orders

Pradeep S. Mehta
Secretary General of CUTS International

Residents of central Jaipur face persistent disturbances from air horn usage by buses and trucks even during late hours. Despite existing noise pollution regulations, enforcement has been inadequate. The National Green Tribunal (NGT) issued an order limiting air horn usage on major roads between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. However, enforcement agencies, including the traffic police, transport department, and pollution control board, have still not implemented the order. What the NGT should have done is to evaluate the possibility of its order being implemented or taken action which would be implementable. This would mean complete ban of air horns, which it did not consider. Consequently, the issue remains unresolved after more than two years.

Judicial orders that incorporate strategies to overcome enforcement challenges have the potential to optimise resource utilisation and foster public satisfaction. By focusing on practical and actionable enforcement strategies, meaningful and lasting outcomes can be achieved. Inspiration can also be drawn from Kathmandu in Nepal, where strict enforcement of noise control measures, combined with public awareness campaigns, has led to remarkable change. It demonstrates how proactive enforcement, supported by public education and cooperation, can drive change. Enforcement is not merely a procedural task – it is integral to justice itself. The consequences of weak enforcement of judicial decisions are profound, undermining both governance and public trust in the judiciary.

Anticipating hurdles

The challenges in enforcing judicial decisions are emblematic of systemic issues. Enforcement agencies are often reluctant to act on violations they deem "minor", creating a significant disconnect between judicial intent and ground reality. This gap highlights the need for judicial foresight during decision-making to anticipate enforcement hurdles and ensure the implementation framework is robust and realistic.

Consider the *State of Tamil Nadu v. K. Balu* (2017) case, popularly known as the liquor ban case. The Supreme Court aimed to curb road accidents caused by drink driving and prohibited liquor sales within 500 metres of the highways. However, enforcement challenges soon emerged. The decision led to widespread circumvention, including the reclassification of highways as urban roads and the relocation of liquor outlets just beyond 500 meters of highways. This revealed a lack of foresight in anticipating implementation hurdles and delays in execution procedures which can even render judgments ineffective.

There may be certain exceptions where it may be prudent for the court to consider certain aspects for effective enforcement. Section 38 of the Code of Civil Procedure (CPC) in India gives the power to execute a decree to both the court that passed it and the court to which it is sent for execution. Order 21 of the CPC addresses the formal process of executing decrees issued by courts at all levels, from the grassroots level to the highest authority. Despite these provisions, the actual execution of judgments often falls short as there are concerns regarding the validity of a decree and judicial misconduct.

India has witnessed several instances where judicial enforcement has been effective. In *Common Cause v. Union of India* (2018), the Supreme Court legalised passive euthanasia and the success of this judgment stemmed from its clarity: specific guidelines for healthcare institutions, stringent monitoring mechanisms, and systematic oversight ensured that the decision translated into action. The Taj Trapezium Zone directives highlighted the significance of inter-agency collaboration. Based on the Varadarajan Committee's recommendation, a green belt was established around the Mathura oil refinery, and regular air quality monitoring was mandated. These examples show that effective enforcement requires actionable directives and concurrent monitoring frameworks.

> The effectiveness of judicial reform in India is undermined by weak enforcement mechanisms

How to ensure enforcement

To achieve the aim of effective enforcement, there is a pressing need to establish a system where an officer could be appointed in every government department and agency to review and remedy the situation. The officer would be responsible for executing orders, ensuring compliance through regular audits and reporting, and would face the threat of consequences for failing to execute such orders.

It is essential to leverage technologies to identify government departments and agencies whose jurisdictions align with specific judicial directives enabling the entities to report back to the court within designated time frames. Enforcement mechanisms play a critical role in encouraging compliance, particularly through the use of positive measures. Transparency, as a key mechanism, fosters compliance by ensuring robust policy formation and the effective dissemination of information.

In conclusion, the effectiveness of judicial reform in India is undermined by weak enforcement mechanisms. To bridge these systemic gaps, it is imperative to establish a structured system with officers accountable to the judiciary while maintaining transparency. Tech-driven monitoring, clear accountability frameworks, and fostering public engagement can significantly improve compliance. Furthermore, inter-agency coordination is essential to translate judicial rulings into tangible real-world outcomes.

The politics of reservation

How Congress is hoping to secure Backward Classes support and corner the BJP

STATE OF PLAY

R. Ravikanth Reddy
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In a political move that could shape the electoral landscape of the country in the years to come, the Telangana government, led by Congress Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, passed two Bills to enhance reservations for the Backward Classes to 42% in education, employment, and local body polls.

This was one of the Congress' guarantees to the people of Telangana before the Assembly elections in December 2023. With the Telangana Assembly passing the Telangana Backward Classes, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Reservation of Seats in Educational Institutions and of Appointments for Posts in Services under the State) Bill, 2025, and the Telangana Backward Classes (Reservation of seats in Rural and Urban Local Bodies) Bill, 2025, in the Assembly on March 17, the Congress fulfilled its poll promise. This comes months after the State government's caste survey found that the Backward Classes form 56.33% of the State's population.

The Bills will now have to be approved by the Central government, led by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). This means that the Revanth Reddy government has effectively thrown the ball in the Centre's court. Given the urgency with which the caste survey was conducted in Telangana and the Bills took shape in the Assembly, the BJP is being pushed to take a stand on the caste census, which the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, has been demanding relentlessly from the Centre.

The Bills aim to enhance Backward Classes reservation to 42%, taking the total reservation to more than 60%. This means that they breach the Supreme Court's 50% upper limit on reservation.

While the BJP national leadership has not made its stand clear, the Telangana BJP unit was left with little choice but to support the Bills in the Assembly. The BJP now faces immense pressure from the Backward Classes, a critical voter base that it has been cultivating over the years, to endorse the Bills. However, backing them means to risk legal hurdles given that the Supreme Court in 2023 refused to stay a Patna High Court order quashing reservation up to 65% for Backward Classes, Extremely Backward Classes, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Bihar. The only option left before the BJP then is a constitutional amendment to breach the 50% cap, which the party has always been opposed to. These Bills provide a test of the BJP's ideological stance against electoral realities.

The likely demand for a national Backward Classes reservation policy adds another layer to the episode, with Mr. Gandhi's appeal for a caste census and proportional reservations gaining traction. It is important for the BJP to articulate its stance given the demographics in large States such as Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, where Backward Classes parties are gaining strength.

The Revanth Reddy government feels the Bill is a strategic masterstroke which will catch the attention of all the political parties across the country. By championing Backward Classes welfare, Mr. Revanth Reddy has solidified support for the Congress from these communities in the State. At the same time, with the BJP possibly dithering on the issue, he could frame the party as being 'anti-Backward Classes'.

Meanwhile, the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS), Telangana's principal opposition party, has also found itself pushed into a corner regarding the Bills. It was the BRS government and former Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao who reduced Backward Classes reservations from 34% to escape legal issues when he conducted elections to the local bodies five years ago. Without supporting the Bills, the BRS faces the risk of alienating the Backward Classes communities which have stood with it in the last 10 years.

While Mr. Rao and BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao are not very active on the ground, Mr. Rao's daughter and MLC K. Kavitha adopted an aggressive stance demanding a higher Backward Classes quota. She seems to have signalled to the top brass in the party that she is positioning herself as a champion of the cause within the BRS even though she is conducting meetings through her social entity, Telangana Jagruthi.

Even if the Bills do run into legal hurdles, the Congress can still reclaim its earlier voter base among the Backward Classes. The BJP will have to navigate this minefield carefully so that it does not lose the trust of the community.

When law enforcement officers endorse fear and force

The substantial support for the use of force among police personnel also extends to vigilante justice

DATA POINT

Priyanka Mittal
Sanjay Kumar
Devesh Kumar

Misuse of force by the police has long been a contentious issue in India. It often surfaces in public discourse following high-profile cases of custodial deaths or excessive violence. India lacks a specific law to prevent torture, but there is an extensive framework of legal procedures to ensure rights and safeguards of arrested people. The legality of arrest is dependent on full compliance with these procedures.

A recent Lokniti-Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS) and Common Cause survey of 8,276 police personnel sheds light on the acceptance of force, fear tactics, and extrajudicial measures among India's police personnel. It reveals that a majority of police personnel believe in using intimidation as a law enforcement tool. More than half the respondents endorsed the use of tough methods to create fear among the public, with 20% describing it as very important and 35% as somewhat important. Only three in 10 police personnel completely rejected this fear-based approach, stating that the police force should be a friendly force and should have no need to instil fear **(Table 1).**

The substantial support for the use of force among police personnel also extends to vigilante justice. More than a quarter of police respondents said mob violence was strongly justified in cases of sexual harassment and assault (27%) and child kidnapping (25%). Even for less serious offences such as pickpocketing and chain-snatching, 16% of police personnel completely justified mob violence. In cases of alleged cow slaughter, 16% of police respondents strongly justified mob violence, while 22% endorsed partial justification **(Table 2)**. Police personnel from Gujarat, Odisha, and Rajasthan offered the highest support to mobs punishing people in case of alleged cow slaughter (51%, 32% and 31% respectively).

Three in every four police personnel (74%) prioritised following proper legal procedures over encounter killings, regardless of the nature of crime. However, close to one-fourth of the respondents (22%) also believed that for the greater good of the society, it is sometimes imperative to kill dangerous criminals during encounters instead of giving them a legal trial **(Table 3)**.

Police personnel were also asked how often they adhered to various arrest procedures. Eight out of 10 personnel stated that a female officer was always present during the arrest of a woman. A little over seven in 10 reported that they always informed the suspect of the reasons for their arrest and completed an inspection memo beforehand (72%). Overall, only three-fourths of personnel claimed full compliance with all legal arrest procedures. About one in 10 opined that they rarely or never followed all the procedures **(Table 4).**

When asked about the practice of producing an arrested person before a judge/magistrate within 24 hours of arrest, only a little over half (56%) the police personnel said it was always feasible to meet this requirement **(Table 5)**.

Around one-third (30%) of police personnel cited that they need far more time to interrogate the accused. Another corresponding proportion (23%) opined that the first 24 hours were simply insufficient for a proper investigation. **(Table 6).**

Similarly, the study examined the feasibility of taking arrested people for a medical examination. Close to six in 10 (57%) said that it was always practical to take an arrested person for a medical exam, while about one-third said it was feasible only sometimes.

Police practices

Data for the tables were sourced from Lokniti-CSDS. Sanjay Kumar is a professor at CSDS. Devesh Kumar and Priyanka Mittal are researchers with Lokniti-CSDS.

Table 1: How important is it for the police to use tough methods to create fear among the public?

	%
Very important	20
Somewhat important	35
Not very important	13
Not at all important. Police should be a friendly force and there is no need to instil fear	30

Table 2: Sometimes there are instances when mobs punish crime suspects with violence. In your opinion, to what extent is it justified for a mob to punish suspects in the following cases?

When there is a case of...	To a great extent	To some extent	Not really justified	Not at all justified
...sexual harassment and assault	27	22	15	34
...child lifting/kidnapping	25	22	16	36
...petty thefts like pickpocketing	16	30	15	38
...cow slaughter	16	22	16	43

Table 3: Which of the two statements do you agree with the most?

For the greater good of the society, killing dangerous criminals during encounters is sometimes more effective than giving them a legal trial	22
No matter how dangerous a criminal is, the police should try to catch them and follow proper legal procedures	74

Table 4: In your experience, how often are these procedures followed when a person is being arrested?

	Always	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
Have a female police personnel present at the time of a woman's arrest	80	11	6	3
Inform the arrested person of the reasons for their arrest	72	18	7	2
Complete an inspection memo	72	17	7	2
Complete an arrest memo with all the required signatures	71	17	6	4
Inform their family members about the arrest	70	17	7	4
Take the arrested person to a doctor for a medical examination	70	16	8	4
Identify yourself as a police officer with your name tag visible	65	19	9	3
Release the person on bail immediately at the police station in bailable offences	62	19	9	4
Inform the arrested person that they can contact a lawyer	59	20	11	5

Table 5: How feasible/practical is it for police personnel to produce a person before a judge/magistrate within 24 hours of his/her arrest?

Always	56
Sometimes	30
Rarely	8
Never	3

Table 6: Which is the most important reason for delays in producing an arrested person before a magistrate within 24 hours?

More time needed for interrogation of the accused	30
Inadequate infrastructure (vehicles, fuels, escorts)	25
The first 24 hours are inadequate for proper investigation	23

Note:
A recent Lokniti-Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS) and Common Cause survey of 8,276 police personnel sheds light on the acceptance of force, fear tactics, and extrajudicial measures among India's police personnel.

It reveals that a majority of police personnel believe in using intimidation as a law enforcement tool.

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO APRIL 9, 1975

USSR stockpiling guided missiles in Somalia?

Washington, April 8: The Soviet Union is reported to be stockpiling long-range guided missiles at the Russian naval base located in the horn of Africa, in Berbera, Somalia. The missiles are said to be intended for the dozen or more surface and submarine vessels that the Soviet Union reportedly maintains in the North Arabian Sea, not far from the mouth of the Persian Gulf.

Pentagon officials, who have disclosed this information to a defence analyst of The New York Times, believe that the missiles, which have a range of 200 to 700 miles, could be used by the Soviet Union to control the exit from the Persian Gulf and the entrance to the Red Sea in the event of another international crisis, in the wake of another war between the Arabs and the Israelis.

The Soviet Union, together with the pro-Soviet Governments in Iraq and Southern Yemen, the U.S. Defence Department officials are said to believe, could use their forces to blockade Israel, by preventing Iran or any other oil country in the region from suppling oil to Israel, in the event of another West Asian conflict.

They also speculate that if another war produces another oil embargo, as they think it will, the Soviet naval forces in the region would have the capability to prevent any oil nation like Iran or Saudi Arabia from breaking the embargo.

These same U.S. officials are stated to be highly critical of Washington's new policy (reportedly in effect since the U.S. Secretary of State, Dr. Henry Kissinger's last round of shuttle diplomacy in West Asia failed) of withholding new weapons, like the Lance missiles (which can carry both nuclear and conventional warheads) and the ultra-modern Eagle fighter plane, from Israel in an attempt to pressure Israel into resuming indirect negotiations with Egypt.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO APRIL 9, 1925

Opium sale

Calcutta, April 3: At the opium sale, 250 chests of Benares opium were sold. The total proceeds amounted to Rs. 11,92,750, the highest price for a chest being Rs. 5,575, the lowest Rs. 4,570 and the average Rs. 4,771.

From Page One

SC pulls up Governor, sets deadline for Bills

The court said that Governors must look within themselves and reflect whether their actions were in line with the Constitutional ethos and aspirations of the people. Delaying assent indefinitely on Bills passed by the State Legislature reduced these proposed laws, which voiced the aspirations of the people, into mere pieces of paper, Justice Pardiwala observed.

A Governor has a maximum of one month to withhold assent on the aid and advice of the State Cabinet, the court said. If he withholds assent contrary to the Cabinet's advice, he has a maximum of three months to return the Bill with a message specifying his reasons. The Governor has three months to reserve a Bill for the President's consideration against the advice of the State Cabinet. The Governor "must" grant assent to a Bill repassed by the State Legislature under Article 200 within a maximum of one month.

Justice Pardiwala said that Governors should be put on the clock, as the Constitutional significance of Article 200 and federal polity required that their conduct answer to "determinable judicial standards". Any failure by a Governor to comply with the timelines would invite judicial review, the court warned.

'No pocket veto'

Justice Pardiwala emphasised that Governors have no such "absolute or pocket veto". "Governors cannot withhold assent *simplicter* [in a summary manner]," the court declared.

Besides, a Governor cannot exercise his personal discretion if a House passed the same Bill again and returned it to him for consent, the court pronounced.

The Tamil Nadu Assembly had re-passed the 10 Bills in a special session held on November 18, 2023 without making any amendments, and returned them to the Governor for his consent again. The Governor, this time, had sat on the "repassed" Bills indefinitely, only to reserve them for the consideration of the President on November 28, 2023 after the State approached the SC.

The top court declared that the Governor's conduct was arbitrary, *non-est* (non-existent) and erroneous in law.

India, UAE to deepen defence cooperation

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

India and the UAE on Tuesday agreed that "close cooperation between the defence industries" should be an "integral part" of the bilateral cooperation, the government said in a press note after Defence Minister Rajnath Singh met visiting Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum.

"The two leaders expressed satisfaction on the active Coast Guard to Coast Guard cooperation and committed to further deepen it by formalising the same through an MoU," the press note read.

Mr. Singh said the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership with the UAE was of "immense priority" for India, adding, "In the coming years, we are eager to work closely in areas such as defence cooperation, co-production and co-development projects, innovation and technology. Both India and the UAE are committed to work towards peace and prosperity in the region."

The Crown Prince said, "Our conversations reaffirmed the strength of UAE-India ties which is built on trust, shaped by history, and driven by a shared vision to create a future full of opportunity, innovation, and prosperity."

2 held for grenade attack on Punjab BJP leader's house

Preliminary investigations suggest a larger conspiracy orchestrated by Pakistan's ISI, say police; Opposition parties slam the ruling AAP govt. over Punjab's deteriorating law and order situation

The Hindu Bureau
CHANDIGARH

A hand grenade attack at the residence of senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Manoranjan Kalia in Jalandhar on Tuesday brought the prevailing law and order situation to the centre stage of politics, even as the police asserted to have arrested two accused in the case, which they said was "masterminded by Pak-ISI backed terror module".

The Opposition parties cornered the ruling Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government over the dismal law and order situation in the State with demands for the resignation of Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann.

Special Director-General of Police (Special DGP), Law and Order, Arpit Shukla said the police had cracked the grenade attack case with the arrest of two persons in less than 12 hours.

"Preliminary investigations have revealed a larger conspiracy orchestrated by Pakistan's ISI to disrupt communal harmony in Punjab. The plot was masterminded by Zeeshan Akhtar, a close associate of gangster Lawrence Bishnoi and Pakistan-based ISI-sponsored gangster Shahzad Bhatti," he said at a press conference. He did not rule out the possible links of the accused with Pakistan-based Babbar Khalsa International.

Sniff test: A sniffer dog inspecting the residence of former Punjab Minister and BJP leader Manoranjan Kalia, after a blast was reported the previous night, in Jalandhar on Tuesday. ANI

The police teams have also recovered an e-rickshaw used by the accused persons in executing the crime. The explosion occurred at the residence of Mr. Kalia on the intervening night of Monday and Tuesday, in which some damage was caused to the property but no injuries were reported. Commissioner of Police (CP) Jalandhar Dhanpreet Kaur said that the case is being investigated in coordination with Central agencies to trace the entire terror network and ensure strict action against all conspirators.

An FIR has been registered under several Sections of the BNS and the Explosive Substances Act.

Mr. Kalia said, "At around 1 a.m. I heard a blast. There was a strong vibration, and it appeared to me as if it was a transformer blast or a thunderclap."

The BJP's national spokesperson and Rajya Sabha member, Sudhanshu Trivedi, said the law and order situation had deteriorated and the situation on the ground was alarming.

Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly and Congress leader Partap Singh Bajwa said the grenade attack was a stark reminder of the escalating violence in Punjab.

Senior Shiromani Akali Dal leader Daljit Singh Cheema said, "This is a big conspiracy to destroy Punjab. Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann should resign with immediate effect."

NIA searches locations linked to Goldy Brar

Devesh K. Pandey
NEW DELHI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Tuesday searched multiple locations linked with alleged Babbar Khalsa International (BKI) terrorist Satinderjit Singh, alias Goldy Brar, in Haryana and Uttar Pradesh.

NIA teams conducted extensive searches on the premises belonging to the suspects and accused associated with foreign-based terrorist Goldy Brar and U.S.-based gangster Randeep Malik, the agency said.

The case is related to the December 2024 grenade attacks at Warehouse Club and Human Club at Sector-29 in Haryana's Gurugram.

During the searches at eight locations, the NIA has seized several electronic devices and documents which are being examined for further leads into the entire conspiracy behind the bombing, in which arms, ammunition, and explosive materials were seized from the accused involved in the attack.

"Soon after the grenade attack, the notorious gangster Rohit Godara had taken responsibility. Subsequent investigations had exposed Malik and Goldy Brar to have masterminded the grenade attacks," the NIA said.

SC verdict is a victory for all States, says Stalin

Leader of the House and Minister Duraimurugan also termed it "historic" and recalled how the House discussed the Rajamannar Committee report on State autonomy when former DMK leader M. Karunanidhi was Chief Minister in 1974.

Like ancient Chola emperor Rajendra Chola and Pallava emperor Narasimhavarman I, Mr. Stalin did his father proud, Mr. Duraimurugan said. During his speech, Speaker M. Appavu congratulated the Chief Minister on behalf of the House.

T.N. verdict applies to its ongoing case: Kerala

The petition by Kerala blamed Governors in Opposition-ruled States triggering an "endemic" of delaying assent or indefinitely sitting on crucial Bills passed by the Legislative Assemblies.

In a hearing on November 20, 2023, Mr. Venugopal had said eight key Bills were pending for eight to 23 months. The State had argued that the Governor was a part of the State Legislature under Article 168 and could not act in a way contrary to the wishes of the elected representatives of the people.

Article 168 spells out that "for every State, there shall be a Legislature which shall consist of the Governor and two Houses to be known respectively as the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly". The court had at the time issued notice to seven Governors in that hearing.

Bombay HC seeks response from Khar police, Sena MLA on Kamra's plea to quash FIR

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

The Bombay High Court on Tuesday asked the Khar police station here and Shiv Sena MLA Murji Kanji Patel, the complainant in the case, to respond to stand-up comedian Kunal Kamra's petition seeking quashing of a first information report (FIR) lodged against him.

The FIR was based on a video of his recent show in which he used the term '*gaddar*' (traitor) for Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde.

The Khar police station on March 24 registered the FIR against Mr. Kamra under Sections 353(1)(B), 353 (2) and 356(2) of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) (statements amounting to public mischief and defamation).

Kunal Kamra

A Division Bench of Justices Sarang Kotwal and S.M. Modak issued a formal notice to the respondents and kept the matter for a detailed hearing on April 16.

Physical presence

The Bench asked senior advocate Navroz Seervai, representing Mr. Kamra, about the interim protection given to him by the Madras High Court.

Mr. Seervai responded, "The Madras High Court has extended interim protection till April 17, but we are concerned about the quashing of the FIR. It would be irresponsible for me to go on."

"My client has thrice offered to give a statement over video conferencing in light of the danger he faced. It does seem the authorities are not keeping on recording the statement. They keep insisting on his physical presence," he added.

"On no less than three occasions, we have offered to cooperate on video conferencing. This is not some murder case, it is a comedy show. Milords must consider the death threats received by my client."

The Bench asked Additional Public Prosecutor Mankunwar Deshmukh, representing the Maharashtra government, to get instructions on the petition.

Remove defamatory content about ANI, Delhi HC tells Wikimedia Foundation

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The platform has labelled the news agency a 'propaganda tool for the incumbent govt.'

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday directed the Wikimedia Foundation to remove allegedly defamatory content about Asian News International (ANI) from its Wikipedia platform that labelled the news agency a "propaganda tool for the incumbent government".

A Bench of Justices Prathiba M. Singh and Rajneesh Kumar Gupta remarked that since Wikipedia pleaded itself to be an intermediary, under the IT Rules, all intermediaries had an obligation to make efforts not to publish any objectionable content.

The court's decision came on an appeal filed by Wikimedia against an April 2 order of the High Court in which it was ordered to take down the allegedly defamatory content against ANI on its platform.

The previous order of the court had raised concerns over the neutrality of Wikipedia content, particularly regarding edits on ANI page.

The court had said the Wikimedia Foundation "cannot completely wash its hands of the contents of the article on the ground that it is only an intermediary and cannot be held responsible for the statement that is published on its platform".

On Tuesday, the court observed that Wikipedia is regarded as an encyclopaedia and should maintain neutrality and not take sides like a blog.

The court slightly revised its April 2 order, directing Wikipedia to remove the alleged defamatory content and allowing ANI to notify the platform of any similar future content, which Wikipedia must then act upon.

'Malicious conduct'

Earlier, ANI had taken Wikimedia Foundation to the court contending that the page dedicated to the news agency had been locked from public editing, preventing ANI or its representatives from rebutting or correcting the statements made.

"This malicious conduct of the defendants ex-facie establishes their ulterior motives of defaming plaintiff (ANI) by publishing false and misleading content against plaintiff," ANI's plea said.

RGI cautions hospitals over delay in reporting events of birth, death

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

The Registrar-General of India's (RGI) office has cautioned private and government hospitals that they must report incidents of birth and death within 21 days, after it was found that many medical institutions were flouting the law, delaying universal registration. Instead of immediately reporting births and deaths, many hospitals are waiting for relatives to request it or even directing relatives to report it themselves, the RGI said.

In a March 17 circular, the RGI's office said that 90% of birth or death events are getting registered in India and significant progress has been made towards the goal of universal registration. However, "the target of 100% registration of births and deaths is yet to be achieved."

"One of the primary reasons for non-realisation of the goal of universal registration is non-reporting of birth and death events by some hospitals, be it private or government, as per the provisions of RBD," the circular said.

With the Census pending since 2021, the vital statistics obtained through civil registration records at different administrative levels enable the estimation of population.

The RGI, which comes under the Union Home Ministry's authority, said in a communication to all States that, as per Section 23(2) of the Registration of Birth and Death (RBD) Act, "negligence by the registrar in registering any birth or death" is punishable with a fine.

The RBD Act, 1969, which was amended in 2023, mandates the registration of all births and deaths on the Centre's portal from October 1, 2023.

Under the Civil Registration System (CRS), the Centre's online portal, government hospitals have been entrusted with the responsibility of functioning as registrars.

Centre files caveat in SC as Waqf Act faces legal test

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Centre on Tuesday filed a caveat in the Supreme Court to ensure no order is passed without hearing it first on multiple petitions challenging the constitutional validity of the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025.

In the meantime, a government notification stated that the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025, which was passed by Parliament last week, came into force on Tuesday.

"In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of section 1 of the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025 (14 of 2025), the Central government hereby appoints the 8th day of April, 2025, as the date on which the provisions of the said Act shall come into force," the Ministry of Minority Affairs notification said.

Over 10 petitions, including those by politicians and the All India Muslim Personal Law Board (AIMPLB) and Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind, were filed in the top court challenging the validity of the newly-enacted law.

The petitions may come up for hearing next week as the court is closed for holidays from April 10. They have argued that the provisions of the amendments imposed "arbitrary restrictions on Waqf properties and their management, thereby undermining the religious autonomy of Muslim community".

The petitioners have submitted that the provisions of the law discriminated against Muslims by imposing restrictions which were not part of the governance of other religious endowments.

Delhi court orders Medha Patkar's release

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Providing respite to 70-year-old Narmada Bachao Andolan leader Medha Patkar, a Delhi court on Tuesday ordered her release on one-year probation in a 24-year-old criminal defamation case lodged against her by Delhi Lieutenant-Governor V.K. Saxena.

She was convicted in the case last year and sentenced to five months in jail, and the conviction was upheld earlier this month.

APPEAL

15 years old Yogeshwaran is suffering from "Medullo Blastoma High Risk". He needs Chemptherapy, Radiation Therapy and Surgery at **Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research** Centre, Madurai. The total expenditure is Rs.7,00,000/-. He is from a very poor family and cannot afford this huge cost. Please help him to undergo the treatment. Donations sent by Ch/D.D. favouring **Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre, Madurai will be acknowledged.** The donations sent through Ch/D.D/ NEFT Transfer & GOOGLEPAY (Canara Bank,Nungambakkam Branch, A/c No. 60182010063310, IFSC No: CNRB0016018) favouring **WOMEN'S WELFARE SYNDICATE** is exempted under 80G IT. Your e-mail ID is requested.

All correspondence is done through **WWS,** Regd Public Charitable Trust, **Flat No. GF 1, Corddel Apartments, O.No.13, N.No. 29, Pycrofts Garden Lane, Chennai-600006. Ph: 044-42137401/ 31523781/ 7338978027.**

E-mail ID: womenswelfaresyndicate@gmail.com.

Website: www.womenswelfaresyndicate.org. **WWS**

Pinarayi calls SC verdict a victory for democracy

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan on Tuesday welcomed the Supreme Court judgment which criticised Tamil Nadu Governor R.N. Ravi for indefinitely withholding several Bills, asserting that the outcome signalled a victory for democracy.

Terming the verdict a strong affirmation of the federal structure and the democratic rights of the legislature, Mr. Vijayan said it serves as a warning "against the tendency of Governors to encroach upon the powers of the legislative bodies".

The Kerala government had earlier accused the former Governor Arif Mohammed Khan of withholding several Bills.

The Chief Minister pointed out that the Supreme Court had previously clarified on multiple occasions that Governors must act on the advice of the Council of Ministers. "Going a step further, this verdict also sets a specific time frame within which Bills must be acted upon," he said.

Governor cannot change his mind second time: SC

Top court refers to how T.N. Governor withheld consent to 10 Bills, says that if he wanted to reserve a Bill for consideration of President, he ought to have done it in the first instance itself

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

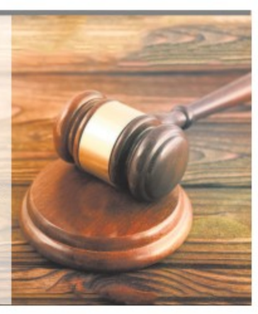
The Supreme Court on Tuesday held that a Governor cannot reserve a Bill for the President's consideration when the proposed law, which was earlier rejected by him, is presented for the second time by the State Legislature.

A Bench headed by Justice J.B. Pardiwala referred to how the Tamil Nadu Governor had withheld consent to 10 Bills sent to him the first time for consent under Article 200 of the Constitution.

However, in the second round, after the Bills were re-passed by the Assembly, the Governor chose to refer them to the President.

Justice Pardiwala observed that had the Governor wanted to reserve the Bill for the consideration of the President, he ought to have done it in the first instance itself. The court said the decision of the Tamil Nadu Governor to push the Bill to the President was not "bona fide".

> ...Presented again after reconsideration in accordance with the first proviso of Article 200, the Governor must grant assent forthwith or subject to a maximum of one month
> SUPREME COURT



The court clarified that a Bill is "presented again after reconsideration in accordance with the first proviso of Article 200, the Governor must grant assent forthwith or subject to a maximum of one month".

"As a general rule, it is not open for the Governor to reserve the Bill for the consideration of the President once it was presented before him in the second round after having been returned to the House previously as per the first proviso (of Article 200). The use of the expression 'shall not withhold assent thereof' appearing in the first proviso places a clear embargo on the Governor and clear enunciation on the requirement that the Governor must accept the Bills which is presented to him after complying with the provisions laid down in the first proviso," the court observed.

The court said the expression 'in his discretion' was removed from Section 75 of the Government of India Act, 1935 when it was being adopted as Article 200 of the Constitution.

"This clearly indicates that any discretion available to the Governor under the Act 1935 in respect of reservation of Bills became unavailable with the commencement of the Constitution," the judge said.

'Governor must give primacy to people's will'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday observed in its order that actions of the Governor which impede the will of the people reneges the Constitutional oath of office.

"The Governor as the Constitutional head of the State is obliged to accord primacy to the will and welfare of the people of the State and earnestly work in harmony with the State machinery," the court said.

"The Governor must be conscious to not create roadblocks or chokehold the State legislature in order to thwart and break the will of the people for political ends," the top court observed.

Shah says terror network crippled, comprehensive changes under way in J&K

Peerzada Ashiq
SRINAGAR

Reviewing preparedness for the annual Amarnath Yatra, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, who concluded his three-day tour of J&K on Tuesday, said the terror ecosystem had been crippled in Jammu & Kashmir.

"Due to sustained and coordinated efforts of the Modi government, the entire terror ecosystem nurtured by elements inimical to our country in J&K has been crippled. The Modi government is working with an unwavering resolve towards building a developed J&K. The tireless efforts of PM Narendra Modi are ushering in a new era of prosperity for every citizen through development and welfare initiatives," Mr. Shah said.

Officials said the Minister chaired a meeting of the Unified Headquarters to discuss security arrangements for the pilgrimage. Top officials of security agencies participated. J&K Chief Minister Omar Abdullah was not present.

Valley visit: Home Minister Amit Shah with J&K Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and L-G Manoj Sinha in Srinagar on Tuesday. ANI

Earlier in the day. Mr. Shah, joined by J&K Lieutenant-Governor Manoj Sinha and Mr. Abdullah, held a meeting of senior administrative officials at the Raj Bhavan. Mr. Shah took stock of the Central schemes and development projects.

It was a rare sight to see Mr. Sinha and Mr. Abdullah together in an official function, and it came against the backdrop of growing friction between the Chief Minister's office and the Raj Bhavan over recent transfers by the Governor.

During the meeting, Mr. Shah said the government was working with an unwavering resolve towards building a developed J&K. "Untiring efforts of the Modi government to accelerate the pace of development in J&K have resulted in comprehensive changes in all sectors in the Union Territory," he said.

The three-day tour of Mr. Shah, first since an elected government took over in J&K, saw a marathon meeting with BJP and RSS leaders in Jammu. He took feedback on the functioning of the elected government and the role of the Opposition played by the BJP.

He welcomed the move of three former separatist leaders to distance themselves from the Hurriyat.

CWC adopts resolution to walk the path shown by Vallabhbhai Patel

Sandeep Phukan
AHMEDABAD

A meeting of the extended Congress Working Committee (CWC) on Tuesday adopted a resolution committing itself to take the path shown by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel while attacking the BJP's attempt to hijack his legacy.

"Today, the ideology of violence and communalism is pushing the country into an abyss of hatred, based on the divisions of religious polarisation. Therefore, once again, Congress party is determined to emulate the resoluteness of 'Iron man' Sardar Patel by fighting the frenzy of religious polarisation," the CWC resolution read.

The resolution, "Flagbearer of freedom movement – Our Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel", was a clear attempt to counter the BJP's charge that the Congress had historically neglected the leader.

In his opening remarks to the CWC, party chief Mallikarjun Kharge accused the BJP-RSS combine of trying to "usurp" the legacy of Sardar Patel and other national heroes through a "well-planned conspiracy", and said the Sangh Parivar had made no contribution to the freedom movement. He said that it was Patel who, as Home Minister, banned the RSS after the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi.

Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi, Sonia Gandhi and Mallikarjun Kharge at the CWC meeting in Ahmedabad on Tuesday. VIJAY SONEJI

The CWC resolution on Patel added that forces of animosity and division seek to undermine the spirit of camaraderie and bonhomie. "Therefore, once again, the Congress is determined to follow the life principles of Sardar Patel to defeat the forces of animosity and division as also exposing the fake news factory of these elements," it said.

The document asserted that "the ideology of make-believe confrontation and mischievously professed division had led to spreading of a deliberate web of lies of conflict between Sardar Patel and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru".

"The cobweb of deceit and deception couldn't sustain, for Sardar Patel himself wrote to Pandit Nehru on August 3, 1947, and unequivocally stated, 'Our attachment and affection for each other and our comradeship for an unbroken period of nearly 30 years admit of no formalities... Our combination is unbreakable and therein lies our strength'," the CWC resolution said.

Highlighting how Patel had fought against the exploitative British policies, the resolution went on to draw parallels between the colonial rulers and the present-day BJP regime.

"The BJP government of today emulates the cruel British Policies against the farmers – be it bringing an ordinance to whittle down "the Right to Fair Compensation Law" for acquisition of land, the three Anti-Agriculture 'Black Laws' to enslave the farmers, blocking the path of farmers by digging up roads and putting up spikes & wedges, betrayal of the farmers by reneging on the solemn promise of an MSP guarantee law or crushing the farmers in Lakhimpur Kheri under the Jeeps of BJP leaders as a revenge for demanding justice," it read.

Mr. Kharge said that attention was being diverted from the basic issues of the country by indulging in communal division. "At the same time, oligarchic monopoly is on the path of controlling the government by capturing the resources of the country," he alleged.

Chidambaram faints

Congress leader P. Chidambaram fell unconscious during a prayer meet here and was taken to hospital. Sources said he probably fainted due to the heat after a hectic day.

His son Karti later said on X that his father was fine and was being examined by doctors.

(With PTI inputs)

Secularism is core to Cong. value system, Rahul tells party colleagues

Sandeep Phukan
AHMEDABAD

Congress leader and Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi said on Tuesday that secularism was core to the Congress value system and it should not shy away from it and believers of every faith must find equal respect. He was speaking to his party colleagues during a closed door brainstorming session.

Mr. Gandhi's assertion that the Congress cannot be seen as the party of "one community/religion" came as the extended Congress Working Committee (CWC) had an intense debate on the main resolution to be adopted at the AICC session on Wednesday.

In response to a question from CWC members including Shashi Tharoor on the party's strategy to counter polarisation, Mr. Gandhi said his party colleagues should not be ambiguous about the religious identity of a person, if she or he is being attacked because of their faith.

K.C. Venugopal announced that party will undergo a massive organisational rejig. FILE PHOTO

"If a Muslim or a Christian or a Sikh is being attacked, we must clearly say it," Mr. Gandhi was quoted as saying by a CWC member.

He said that the Congress lost support among the Other Backward Classes (OBC) after 1991. He said the country could not progress by ignoring OBCs, Dalits, Adivasis and minorities, and reiterated his focus on social justice.

The AICC session would approve two resolutions: one on national issues, reflecting the party's position on political, economic and social issues and another on Gujarat.

Two resolutions

The main resolution would reiterate the party's ideological framework, its position on contemporary political developments and lay down the road map to carry out organisational reforms. On organisational reforms, AICC general secretary K.C. Venugopal, addressing a press conference along with party's communications chief Jairam Ramesh, announced that the party was going to have a "massive organisational reshuffle".

Reflecting the party's strong views on a host of issues, sources said the resolution was likely to describe the Waqf Amendment Act as part of the BJP's "polarising narrative" and mention the Union government's response to international events such as reciprocal tariffs imposed by U.S. President Donald Trump, the Palestine-Israel conflict, targeting of minorities in Bangladesh and the face-off with China as "weak-kneed and submissive".

The resolution would also include the party's understanding of nationalism, promise of making MSP for farmers a legal guarantee and talk about empowerment for women.

Calling itself the "guardian of democracy and defender of the Constitution," the party has expressed concern over the functioning of autonomous institutions including Election Commission.

Congress insulted Ambedkar, never gave Patel his due: BJP

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Union Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal on Tuesday said that Congress leader Rahul Gandhi had insulted B.R. Ambedkar by asserting the Constitution of India was "a thousand years old", and it was tantamount to undermining Ambedkar's legacy. Mr. Gandhi had made the remark during a programme in Bihar on Monday.

"By saying this, Rahul Gandhi has undermined the actual framer of the Indian Constitution, Babasaheb Ambedkar," Mr. Meghwal said. The Congress, he added, "has always belittled him [Ambedkar]".

'Appropriating legacy'

Mr. Meghwal also hit back at Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge for claiming that Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's ideology was opposed to that of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) as Mr. Kharge had accused the BJP of trying to appropriate Mr. Patel's legacy.

"Congress has never given Sardar Patel his due. The Congress had no regard for Patel as Nehru did not like him," Mr. Meghwal said, citing a book by Sardar Patel's daughter Maniben Patel to allege that Sardar Patel had been insulted by the Congress.

"Since the Congress is holding its convention in Gujarat, Mr. Kharge and his colleagues should have at least paid tributes at his statue in Kevadia if they have respect for him," he added.

Mr. Meghwal said that Sardar Patel symbolised nationalist values, something that the RSS also believed in.

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INBRIEF

EPFO joinees can now create UAN with Aadhaar biometrics

The Universal Account Number (UAN) of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) can now be activated and allotted using face authentication, Union Labour Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said on Tuesday. At present, UANs are generated by employers who submit employee data to the EPFO. Though this data is validated using Aadhaar data, many errors occur in other fields such as father's name and mobile number, Mr. Mandaviya noted. "Due to these errors, many employees had to update their data while submitting claims or for other benefits," he said. New employees or any employer can generate UAN using the Aadhaar face authentication technology using the Umang App, he added.

SC sets aside CBI probe into Bengal supernumerary posts

The Supreme Court on Tuesday set aside a Calcutta High Court direction for a Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) probe into a decision taken by the West Bengal State Cabinet to create supernumerary posts in State-run and aided schools. A Bench headed by Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna clarified that the other directions in the Calcutta High Court judgment into the now-terminated appointment of 25,753 teachers and staffers in West Bengal's State-run and aided schools would continue to be valid. A "supernumerary post" refers to a temporary position created to accommodate an employee who is entitled to a regular post that is currently unavailable.

Bilateral arrangements taking over multilateralism: Finance Minister

Sitharaman says rise in global uncertainties, along with the ineffectiveness of multilateral institutions, is driving countries to be more proactive with bilateral arrangements; she denies that India-U.K. trade talks will be accelerated in view of U.S. tariffs

Sriram Lakshman
LONDON

Responding to an increasingly fragmented and multipolar world, countries are prioritising bilateral arrangements, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said on Tuesday.

However, she denied that the India-U.K. trade negotiations were going to be sped up because of the tariffs announced by U.S. President Donald Trump, even as she was optimistic that the negotiations would be concluded "sooner rather than later".

Ms. Sitharaman made the remarks during a moderated discussion on India's development trajectory, with LSE Professor Nicholas Stern and BJP member and former bureaucrat N.K. Singh at the Indian High Commission in London. Ms. Sitharaman is in London for the 13th India-U.K. Economic and Financial Dialogue (EFD) with her counterpart, U.K. Chancellor Rachel Reeves.

The world was getting more multipolar, and that, along with the ineffectiveness of multilateral institutions, was driving countries to be more proactive with bilateral arrangements, she said. "Global uncertainties - the imponderables - are multiplying by the day," she said, arguing that countries could not grapple with all of these and factor them into their policies. Therefore, she said, it was simpler and more effective to look at these challenges through a bilateral lens. "And when bilateral arrangements are being made, you find that ideological or bloc-related affiliations no longer hold," Ms. Sitharaman said.

Economy discourse: Nirmala Sitharaman addressing a session at the High Commission of India in London on Tuesday. PTI

"So bilateral arrangements for trade – or for any other reason – are catching up," she said, adding that economic interests were now part of strategic interests. Bilateralism would be the way forward at least until multilateral institutions go through a revival and "speak with a certain voice", she said.

The latest source of uncertainty in the world has been Mr. Trump's April 2 announcement of tariffs. The U.K. and India face a 10% and 26% tariff, respectively, on their U.S. exports. U.K. Prime Minister Keir Starmer had described this as the start of a "new era" and not a short-term exercise.

Asked if the U.S. tariffs were creating momentum for the U.K. and India to conclude a trade deal, the Minister answered in the negative. India and the U.K. had been negotiating a deal for "a long time", she said, pointing to discussions the Modi government had held with the former (Conservative) U.K. governments.

"So it is not as if we are rushing into a U.K. FTA, because something has developed from the U.S. This was to happen a long time ago." With the new Labour government in the U.K. also showing enthusiasm to conclude a deal, she hoped one could be agreed "sooner rather than later".

Pitch for GIFT City

Apart from the Dialogue with Ms. Reeves on Wednesday, Ms. Sitharaman has engagements with the City of London (the London local government that houses the city's financial district) and its governmental head, the Lord Mayor of London.

During her visit, the Minister is making a pitch for GIFT City, the central business district in Ahmedabad, as a financial services centre in India. This was part of her discussions with the chief of insurance company Prudential PLC, Shriti Vadera, in London on Tuesday - the Finance Minister encouraged Prudential to explore opportunities in its International Financial Services Centre, in the GIFT City Special Economic Zone.

Other discussions as part of the Dialogue would include a bilateral investment agreement, which the U.K. and India have been discussing in parallel to a trade agreement, the mutual recognition of professional qualifications, and cooperation in the education sphere, the Minister said.

The two sides are expected to discuss opportunities for U.K. universities to set up campuses in India and also look into enhancing the number of Indian students who were studying in the U.K.

India is also seeking to collaborate with U.K. research institutions, she said. Some U.K. educational institutions – such as the University of Southampton – have already set up campuses in India under the National Education Policy (2020). Queen's University Belfast has said it will offer courses in GIFT City next year and the University of Surrey is exploring options to set up a campus there next year, the *Guardian* reported.

Modi says 52-cr. loans given under MUDRA

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, interacting with beneficiaries here on Tuesday on the 10th anniversary of the Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana, said the scheme has turned several dreams into reality, empowering people who were previously overlooked with financial support to shine. "It illustrates that for the people of India, nothing is impossible," he said.

Mr. Modi said 52-crore loans had been disbursed under the scheme so far. He said ₹33 lakh crore has been disbursed to the citizens of India under the scheme without the need for guarantees.

"This amount is unprecedented and surpasses any financial support extended to wealthy individuals collectively," the PM said, adding that job creation through the scheme has significantly contributed to economic growth. "The earnings of common citizens have increased, enabling them to improve their living standards and invest in education for their children," he said.

He said half of the beneficiaries belonged to SC, ST and OBC communities, and over 70% of them are women.

New Aadhaar app with face ID released for testing

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A new Aadhaar app will be released by the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) soon, Minister of Electronics and Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnaw said at the Aadhaar Samvaad event in Delhi on Tuesday. For now, it's available to only a small group of users.

The new app has a revamped design, compared with the existing mAadhaar app. It has a facial recognition feature to securely share Aadhaar data with "requesting" entities without the need to share a hard copy.

"Now, with just a tap, users can share only the necessary data, giving them complete control over their personal information," Mr. Vaishnaw said.

Genome study: 180 million genetic variants found in 9,772 individuals

R. Prasad
CHENNAI

Preliminary findings of the GenomeIndia project, which genotyped 10,074 healthy and unrelated Indians from 85 populations – 32 tribal and 53 non-tribal populations – across India, were published in the journal *Nature Genetics* on Tuesday. Blood samples were collected from nearly 20,000 individuals, of which DNA samples from 10,074 individuals were subjected to whole genome sequencing.

Nearly 100 samples were collected from each population with a median of 159 samples from each non-tribal group and 75 from each tribal group to estimate the relatively rare variants that are important to understand complex diseases.

After excluding two populations, the preliminary findings are based on the genetic information of 9,772 individuals – 4,696 male participants and 5,076 female participants. The genome sequence data are deposited in the Indian Biological Data Centre housed in the Regional Centre for Biotechnology in Faridabad, Haryana.

The samples were collected from 32 tribal and 53 non-tribal populations. ISTOCKPHOTO

The genomes of Tibeto-Burman tribe, Indo-European tribe, Dravidian tribe, Austro-Asiatic tribe, and continentally admixed outgroup were sequenced. In the case of non-tribes, the genomes of Tibeto-Burman non-tribe, Indo-European non-tribe, and Dravidian non-tribe were sequenced.

Different variants

In all, 180 million genetic variants were found when the genomes of 9,772 individuals were sequenced. Some of the variants are associated with diseases; some others are rare while some variants are unique to India; and some others are unique to particular communities or small populations.

"We are now trying to find out the implications of these variants," said Dr. Kumarasamy Thangaraj of the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CSIR-CCMB), Hyderabad, and one of the corresponding authors of the Comment piece. "We are looking for variants which are functionally relevant – related to diseases, those associated with therapeutic responses or no responses, and those that are causing adverse effects to therapeutic agents."

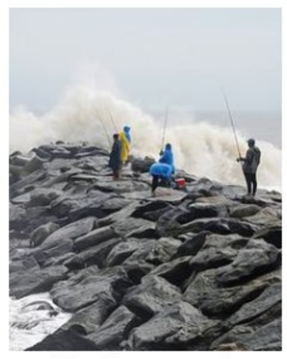
Dr. Thangaraj said the information on variants associated with specific diseases can be utilised for developing low-cost diagnostic kits and for personalised medicine. "In-depth analyses of 9,772 diverse genomes along with the blood biochemistry and anthropometry data will improve disease diagnostics, predict the genetic basis of drug responses, and kickstart precision medicine efforts in India," the authors write. A detailed paper will be published in the next couple of months.

Skymet forecasts 'normal' monsoon; 'La Nina weak'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The private weather agency Skymet Weather has forecast a "normal" monsoon from June to September. The monsoon rainfall will be 3% more than the long-time average of 868.6 mm (with an error margin of 5%) during the period. Rainfall in the window of 4% of the long-time average is considered "normal".

"La Nina (a half-degree or more cooling of the Central Equatorial Pacific) this season was weak and brief. The vital signs of La Nina have started fading now. The occurrence of El Nino (a half-degree heating in the same region) which normally corrupts the monsoon is ruled out," Jatin Singh, managing director, Skymet, said in a statement. "The second half of the season is expected to be better than the first half." A La Nina is usually linked to increased monsoon rainfall and El Nino, the opposite.



Rainfall will be 3% more than the long-time average of 868.6 mm, Skymet says. THE HINDU

Skymet said that it anticipated "sufficiently good rains" over western and South India. The core monsoon rain-fed zone of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh would receive "adequate" rainfall. Excess rainfall was likely all along the Western Ghats, more so, over Kerala, coastal Karnataka and Goa. The northeast region and the hilly states of North India are likely to receive less than normal rainfall.

The rainfall during June, the first monsoon month, was likely to be 4% below normal. July and August, the rainiest of the monsoon months, will likely receive 2% and 8% more rainfall, respectively. September will receive 4% more rainfall, the agency has forecast.

The India Meteorological Department is expected to announce its forecast next week. It will give a more detailed breakdown of the forecast, on how the monsoon will pan out regionally, in mid-May.

Last year, India ended up with 8% more rainfall.

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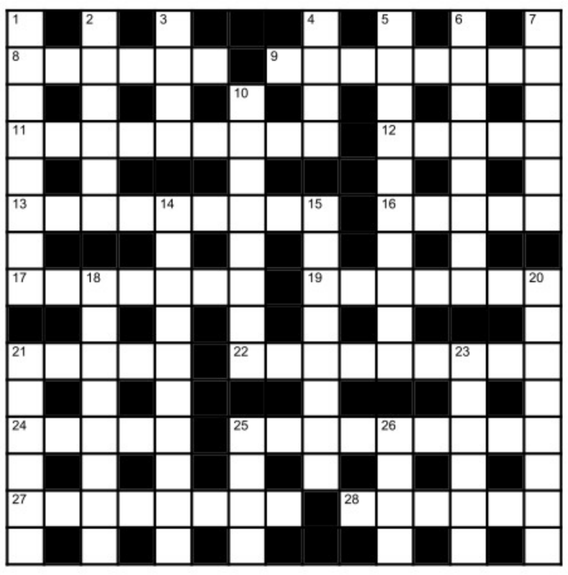
SCAN TO PLAY



Across

8 Metal chip one brought forward (6)
9 A democrat near California engaged in election campaign (8)
11 Department preparing cities for peace treaty (9)
12 Gist of article by setter (5)
13 Order food containing good nutrients primarily (9)
16 Nymph animatedly fly right leaving fairyland excitedly (5)
17 Falsely sue queen with anger for title (7)
19 Expert creating some art (7)
21 Inundated villa was horrible inside (5)
22 An Indian again chasing very drunk showing patience (9)
24 Joint swelling is huge (5)
25 A time with goal amended in reminder list (9)
27 Stun America rejecting report issued every now and then (8)
28 Open temporary shelter after pilgrims' arrival at first (6)

Down

1 Amplify complex case delayed (8)
2 Some calumniated former student (6)
3 Mostly crowded retreats (4)
4 Star lost ring near eastern lounge (4)
5 Europe, say curbing German company (10)
6 Press Association silent about jurywoman (8)
7 Story line for example with point (6)
10 Dead flies collected around the French sea initially (8)
14 People next-door building new big house, having terrace essentially (10)
15 Propose to drop criminal model (8)
18 Problem of a GM covered by papers (8)
20 About to interrupt poet collapsing on volunteer in drama (8)
21 Change notice ahead of fair (6)
23 One section moved behind in fireplaces (6)
25 Endless chase perhaps for money (4)
26 Block wild foal (4)

SUDOKU

9							2	
		7		8			3	5
1			6	7				
3						9		
	5		3		1		4	
		9						1
				1	3			4
5	7			2		6		
	4							8

No.SS6484 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

Solution to previous puzzle

		C	A	L	L	E	D	I	T	A	D	A	Y	
B		O		A		M		L		C		L		E
E	R	N	E	S		B	A	L	L	O	T	B	O	X
W		T		H		O		U		N		U		T
I	N	I	R	O	N	S		S	W	I	M	M	E	R
T		N		U		S		E		T				A
C	O	U	R	T	I	E	R		P	E	A	C	E	
H		E				S		D				A		I
	A	S	I	D	E		W	A	R	F	A	R	I	N
A				R		I		F		R		E		U
B	I	G	B	A	N	G		F	R	E	I	G	H	T
E		A		W		N		O		T		I		E
T	H	R	E	S	H	O	L	D		S	A	V	E	R
S		B		U		R		I		A		E		O
	C	O	R	P	S	E	F	L	O	W	E	R		

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

1	6	5	8	2	9	7	3	4
7	2	4	6	3	1	8	5	9
8	3	9	7	4	5	6	2	1
5	8	7	1	9	2	4	6	3
6	9	3	4	5	7	1	8	2
4	1	2	3	6	8	5	9	7
9	4	8	5	1	3	2	7	6
3	5	6	2	7	4	9	1	8
2	7	1	9	8	6	3	4	5

FAITH

Mahalakshmi's greatness

Parasara Bhattar composed Sri Guna Ratna Kosa in such a way that it brings out the significance of dhvaya mantra. In Rangaraja Stava too, he shows the importance of dhvaya. It can be said that in Rangaraja Stava he explains the first portion of the mantra and in Guna Ratna Kosa, he explains the second portion. Equally it can be said that the reverse is the case, namely that the first portion is explained in Guna Ratna Kosa and the second portion is explained in Rangaraja Stava. Without the dhvaya mantra, cetanas cannot survive. The name 'Narayana' in the mantra must be seen as referring to the archa form of the Lord, which reveals the Lord's saulabhya, said T.A.K. Srinivasacharya in a discourse. Guna Ratna Kosa is about the greatness of Mahalakshmi, just as Alavandar's Chatussloki is.

Sri Guna Ratna Kosa has sixty-one slokas. Every word in it is a gem, and like all gems, every word is precious. Gems are not easily found. In the same way, the meaning of Sri Guna Ratna Kosa cannot be easily understood, without the guidance of an Acharya. The first four slokas are mangala slokas in praise of the Goddess. In the first sloka, Parasara Bhattar offers his anjali to the Goddess, who gives an approving glance to the Lord's many tasks. Just by shutting Her eyes or opening them, or opening them partially, She indicates to the Lord what actions are needed on His part. Creation, protection, dissolution are accomplished by Her just through the movements of Her eyes and eyelids. Parasara Bhattar was the pampered child of Lord Ranganatha and Goddess Ranganayaki of Srirangam. Bhattar was the recipient of Her glances right from infancy, and was eminently qualified to speak of them.

INBRIEF

IOC to invest ₹61,000 cr. in petchem project in Odisha

Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), the nation's largest oil firm, will invest more than ₹61,000 crore in setting up a mega petrochemical complex at Paradip in Odisha to meet the rising demand for petrochemicals in the world's fastest-growing economy, its chairman A.S. Sahney said. IOC had signed a memorandum of understanding with the Odisha government at the state's investor meet, committing to invest ₹61,077 crore in the complex. PTI

India has the potential to gain from U.S. tariffs: GTRI report

With the U.S. tariffs set to come into effect from Wednesday and Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal scheduling a meeting with Indian exporters on April 9, a report by the Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI) said India may benefit because of relatively higher tariff for other Asian countries. If the Indian government carries out reforms to enable scaling up of production and improve domestic value addition India can gain from the tariffs, the report said.

Natco provides update on case filed by Roche

Natco Pharma on Tuesday said it intends to unveil its generic version of spinal muscular atrophy drug Risdiplam only after and subject to successful clarity from the Appellate Bench of the Delhi High Court on an appeal filed by Roche against a single judge's order. A single judge of the Delhi High Court had through an order dated March 24, 2025, denied Roche's plea for an injunction against the company for the drug. Consequently, Roche appealed the decision.

Markets recoup after manic Monday

Stock markets rebound sharply on Tuesday, a day after facing the worst drubbing in 10 months, with benchmark Sensex recouping 1,089 points; NSE Nifty recovers 1.7% to 22,535.85 points after tanking more than 3% in the previous session

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

India's benchmark NSE Nifty recovered 1.7% to 22,535.85 points on Tuesday after tanking more than 3% in the previous session, providing the much-needed respite to investors.

The Nifty opened at 22,446.75 points, about 285 points more than the previous close and slipped to an intra day low of 22,270.85 points.

The index reached a high of 22,697.20, a couple of hours before the market closed. Investors broke the three-day losing trend on Tuesday's trading session.

Steady start: All sectoral indices were in the green, in a reversal from the previous day's trend. PTI

All sectoral indices were in the green, in a reversal from the previous day's trend. Media and entertainment stocks traded 4.72% higher than the previous close followed by financial services index, which was up 3.34% over the Monday's close. The metals index increased to a bare minimum of 1.23%.

The BSE Sensex, too, rose 1.49% to 74,227.08 points on Tuesday. All Sensex firms, except Power Grid, ended in the positive territory. Titan, Bajaj Finance, SBI, L&T, Axis Bank, Bajaj Finserv, Asian Paints and Zomato were the biggest gainers.

"Overall market sentiment shifted to bullish, as evidenced by a strong advance-decline ratio on the BSE, surging to 3.57, the highest since June 6, 2024, indicating widespread buying interest," said Nandish Shah, deputy vice president, HDFC Securities.

This, however, may not mean good news. "Despite this recovery of more than 950 points from yesterday's low, the overall trend remains down, as the Nifty is still positioned below its five-day EMA. Support for the Nifty has moved up to 22,341, while resistance is placed in the range of 22,800-22,900," he added.

Among Asian markets, Tokyo's Nikkei 225 index, Hong Kong's Hang Seng, Shanghai SSE Composite index and South Korea's Kospi settled in the positive territory.

(With PTI inputs)

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	TUESDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	74,227	1.49
US Dollar	86.26	-0.58
Gold	91,250	-0.21
Brent oil	64.09	-0.82

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2285.70	73.00
Adani Ports	1131.35	20.70
Apollo Hosp	6755.60	72.30
Asian Paints	2394.20	52.85
Axis Bank	1077.85	29.90
Bajaj Auto	7498.05	191.25
Bajaj Finserv	1903.20	50.55
Bajaj Finance	8822.25	254.25
Bharat Elec	281.45	9.35
Bharti Airtel	1720.40	33.75
Cipla	1432.55	47.85
Coal India	382.85	5.35
Dr Reddys Lab	1107.95	20.05
Eicher Motors	5231.35	166.10
Grasim Ind	2590.05	80.95
HCL Tech	1403.35	29.25
HDFC Bank	1769.15	11.45
HDFC Life	685.75	19.80
Hero MotoCorp	3574.15	47.25
Hindalco	568.35	6.55
Hind Unilever	2289.25	39.85
ICICI Bank	1299.90	12.35
IndusInd Bank	679.65	3.75
Infosys	1428.80	32.05
ITC	412.55	6.50
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	224.81	11.29
JSW Steel	954.60	24.30
Kotak Bank	2055.15	17.30
L&T	3161.10	92.60
M&M	2523.65	32.40
Maruti Suzuki	11458.90	129.15
NestleIndia	2275.40	26.40
NTPC	352.95	3.15
ONGC	226.66	6.82
PowerGrid Corp	288.95	-0.45
Reliance Ind	1182.20	16.50
SBI Life	1488.00	27.20
State Bank	768.60	21.70
Shriram Finance Ltd.	641.45	27.45
Sun Pharma	1688.35	22.00
TataConsumerProduct	1069.75	22.40
Tata Motors	588.85	9.10
Tata Steel	130.28	0.80
TCS	3292.95	18.90
Tech Mahindra	1314.40	26.40
Titan	3122.30	100.10
Trent Ltd.	4767.20	26.25
UltraTech Cement	11270.45	78.85
Wipro	247.25	4.35
Zomato Ltd.	215.19	5.56

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on April 08

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	86.07	86.39
Euro	94.12	94.47
British Pound	109.97	110.38
Japanese Yen (100)	58.55	58.77
Chinese Yuan	11.73	11.77
Swiss Franc	100.62	101.01
Singapore Dollar	63.73	63.98
Canadian Dollar	60.70	60.94
Malaysian Ringitt	19.15	19.25
Australian Dollar	52.03	52.22

Source:Indian Bank

'JLR UK evaluating steps to respond to U.S. tariffs'

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Tata Motors on Tuesday said that its wholly owned subsidiary, Jaguar Land Rover UK (JLR), has been evaluating various steps to respond to the tariffs announced by the U.S. on April 2, 2025, the news of which is in public domain.

JLR had on Monday announced that the U.S. was an important market for JLR's luxury brands.

"As we work to address the new trading terms with our business partners, we are enacting our planned short-term actions, including a shipment pause in April, as we develop our mid- to longer-term plans," the company had stated.

At a crossroads: There is no decision or plan of action, JLR said in response to a query on media reports of a shipment pause. REUTERS

Responding to a query from the stock exchanges to clarify on a news report on shipment pause, Tata Motors said on Tuesday, "There is no decision or plan of action. This is just emphasising that JLR is evaluating various options to suitably address impact of the increased tariff in U.S. market and the aforesaid news article refers to its immediate response."

'$50 billion worth of MoUs announced at NXT25 summit'

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) worth approximately $50 billion were announced on Tuesday between the Government of Maharashtra and leading domestic and global investors at the India Global Forum's NXT25 Summit held in Mumbai.

The Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) signed five major MoUs for infrastructure development in the Mumbai Metropolitan Region, with a total commitment of $49.02 billion.

Magnum Ice Cream Company, a division of Unilever, signed an MoU to establish its India headquarters in Mumbai, which will serve as the regional HQ for the Middle East, Turkey, and South Asia (METSA), according to a press release.

"It will set up a Global Capability Centre (GCC) in Pune with an investment of ₹900 crore ($108.4 million), aimed at consolidating global business services and innovation. The facility is expected to create over 500 direct jobs by 2029," the release added.

Govt. notifies ₹22,919-cr. sop scheme for electronic parts

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology on Tuesday notified the six-year long ₹22,919-crore Electronics Component Manufacturing Scheme approved by the Union Cabinet last month.

The scheme seeks to provide capex- and turnover-linked sops (as well as a hybrid of these) to firms making 'passive' components for electronics manufacturing. Incentives for incremental investments and turnover range from 1-10% depending on the year and the component.

Now that large scale electronics manufacturing has borne fruit (most smartphones sold in India are now assembled domestically), the government is setting its sights on sub-assemblies and components with this scheme, aiming at increasing the domestic value added in the electronics manufacturing process.

Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said this number now stood at 18% while advanced economies like China were at an average of 38% due to the global nature of the electronics manufacturing industry.

By 2030, Mr. Vaishnaw said, the government aims at facilitating a doubling of the domestic value added.

Cyient sets aside $100 mn for chip arm

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Engineering and technology solutions provider Cyient has earmarked $100 million investment for wholly owned subsidiary Cyient Semiconductors it has unveiled to capitalise on the high-growth opportunity in the semiconductor market, focus on developing fabless semiconductor solutions and address increasing demand for specialised semiconductor expertise.

Cyient has secured board approval for the investment. It plans to raise resources from external investors too and is in the process of appointing merchant bankers for the same, executive vice-chairman and MD Krishna Bodanapu told the media.

He said the money will be deployed for talent-intensive research and development efforts. The semiconductor market is valued at about $600 billion and projected to touch $2 trillion by 2032, Cyient said in a release.

(With PTI inputs)

'Banks' higher slippages, cost of credit to cut profitability'

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Higher slippage ratio and a resultant rise in credit cost is likely to cut banks' profitability in the last quarter of FY25, credit rating agency ICRA said.

Gross bad loan ratio is likely to rise in FY26 due to which lenders may up provisioning, said ICRA analysts. Credit growth is likely at 10.8% to ₹19 lakh-₹20.5 lakh crore in FY26 against 10.9% a year earlier.

'Rupee swings to hit some firms' earnings'

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

The rupee's sharp volatility against the U.S. dollar in the recent months is likely to dent earnings of some sectors by up to 250 basis points in FY26, as per a CRISIL Intelligence study.

These include imported/dollar-denominated sectors such as complex fertilizers, airlines, oil and gas, polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipes and fittings, capital goods, pharmaceuticals (active pharmaceutical ingredients) and renewable power. However, the overall impact on the credit profiles of firms is seen neutral, it said.

The rupee depreciated from ₹83.81 to the dollar on October 1, 2024, to ₹87.40 on February 28, 2025, before appreciating to ₹85.65 on April 3, 2025. This is against an annual rupee depreciation of 1-2% seen over preceding two years through September 2024.

CRISIL Intelligence expects the rupee to continue to depreciate against the dollar and settle at ₹88 a U.S. Dollar by end FY26.

OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER, PHED, REGION, BHARATPUR
Phone: 05644-222731, e-mail: rj_acebha@nic.in
Corrigendum No. 01, NIT Nos. 34/2024-25
The following corrigendum is hereby issued for the NIB No. 34/2024-25 of the office.

Activity	NIT NO. 34/2024-25	
	Existing Provision	Amended Provision
Availability of Bid Document	07/03/2025 to 01/04/2025 06:00 PM	07/03/2025 to 08/04/2025 06:00 PM
Last date & time for Online Submission of Bid Document	01/04/2025 06:00 PM	08/04/2025 06:00 PM
Last date & time for physical Submission of Bid Security and other mandatory Documents	02/04/2025 10:30 AM	09/04/2025 10:30 AM
Date of online opening of Technical Bids	02/04/2025 11:00 AM	09/04/2025 11:00 AM

All other terms and conditions shall remain same as mentioned in original NIT.
NIB Code : PHE2425A5142
UBN No. : PHE2425WLOB11254
(Mohan Lal Meena)
Addl. Chief Engineer
PHED, Region Bharatpur
DIPR/C/4693/2025

TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS : TIRUPATI
MARKETING DEPARTMENT e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE
e-Tenders are invited for procurement of **1) 2,70,000 Pairs of Biodegradable Compostable Hand Gloves** by the Marketing Department, TTD. For tender notice and tender details log on to the web site **http://www.tirumala.org** and **https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in/.**
For further details contact phone numbers: **0877-2264079, 2264555.**
TTD-40021/10/2025-PRO SEC (Adv.No.13), Date:08-04-2025 EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Kerala Rail Development Corporation Limited
Vacancy Notice No.5/2025 for the post of GM /Civil (ROB)
KRDCL is inviting applications for the post of GM/Civil (ROB). Please logon **https://keralarail.com/careers/.** Interested candidates may apply on or before 21-04-2025.

राष्ट्रीय पृथ्वी विज्ञान अध्ययन केंद्र
NATIONAL CENTRE FOR EARTH SCIENCE STUDIES
पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार
Ministry of Earth Sciences, Govt. of India
Akkulam, Thiruvananthapuram -11
No: NCESS/P&GA/9424/07/2025 Date: 08.04.2025
RECRUITMENT
NCESS invites online applications from eligible Indian citizens for appointment to the posts of Project Scientist I and Project Associate II on contract basis initially for a period of one year. Please visit website for details. Further changes, if any, will be notified through website only.
Website: www.ncess.gov.in/Phone:0471-2511500.
Sd/- Senior Manager

MAHATRANSCO Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd.
INVITATION FOR BID (IFB) (LOCAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING)
SRM e-Tender No. T-2513/MSETCL/CO/ Projects /Pre-Tender (RFx No. 6000001305)
MSETCL invites offers by SRM e-tendering in TWO bid system (Techno-Commercial Bid and Price Bid) from the eligible registered bidders for the following work as detailed below.
"Conversion of 110kV DCDC to 132kV DCDC line from Mayani Tap to Dighanchi Substation (Route Length-48.86 km) under Karad Zone, MSETCL."
Interested bidders may obtain further information available on the website. https://srmetender.mahatransco.in
The date of downloading of Bid documents available on the website is from 03.04.2025.
Sd/-
Chief Engineer (Projects), MSETCL.

NAGPUR METROPOLITAN REGION DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Station Road, Kingsway, Sadar, Nagpur-440001.
e-TENDER NOTICE No. 01/2025-26
Name of Work :- Development of Nagpur Metropolitan Region Development Authority's Office, Residential and Commercial Complex Project at Sondapar, MIHAN, Nagpur on Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Sale (DBFOS) Mode.
The Nagpur Metropolitan Region Development Authority, intends to **Develop Nagpur Metropolitan Region Development Authority's Office, Residential and Commercial Complex Project at Sondapar, MIHAN, Nagpur on Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Sale (DBFOS) Mode**. The NMRDA is hereby calling proposal from competent entity to be appointed as a developer for this prestigious project.
E-tender can be downloaded from Govt. of Maharashtra's portal (www.mahatenders.gov.in). The terms and conditions of e-tenders are available on etenders portal. (www.mahatenders.gov.in).
Bidding Process Timelines

1	RFP Sales	11.04.2025 to 02.05.2025
2	RFP Submission End Date	02.05.2025 up to 02:00 PM
3	Pre-Bid Meeting	On 4.00 P.M. on Dt. 17.04.2025 in the office of Superintending Engineer, Station Road, NMRDA Head Office, Sadar, Nagpur
4	Date of Opening of Technical Bid (If Possible)	05.05.2025
5	Cost of Tender Document (Non-Refundable)	Rs. 50,000/-
6	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) to be deposited online at time of submission of tender only	Rs. 3,22,00,000/-

NMRDA reserves the right to alter, modify any clause of the bidding documents including the contract agreement and also to annul the bidding process without assigning any reason whatsoever.
Advt.No.: S.E.(NMRDA)/06/2025-26 Dated : 08.04.2025 -sd- Superintending Engineer, NMRDA, Nagpur

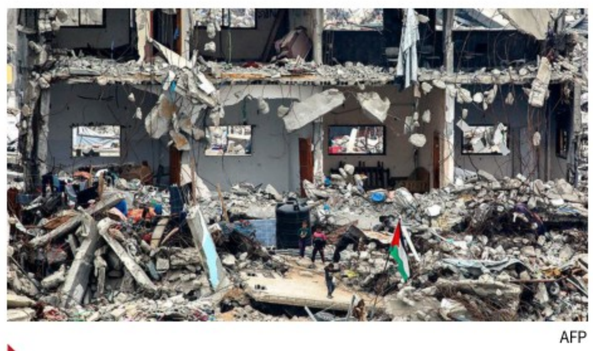
HYD **RGI AIRPORT ADDENDUM TO TENDER NOTICE**
Refer to GHIAL's Tender Notice published in Newspapers on 29th March, 2025 for inviting bids for **"Deployment of Private Security Agency for undertaking non- core security functions for period of 3 years",** timelines /Tender Process Schedule has been revised.
For future & further updates related to this Tender, please visit **www.hyderabad.aero/tenders.aspx**
HIA/64/PREM ASSOCIATES

TAMIL NADU CIVIL SUPPLIES CORPORATION
Poonamallee High Road, Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL) Admin Building, Koyambedu, Chennai - 600 107. Ph.No. (044) 26426773. Email id. : tncsc.tn@nic.in
CIN : U15137TN19725GC006157
SHORT E-TENDER NOTICE
Com1/013339/2025 Date: 08.04.2025
Short e-Tender No. : Com1/013339/2025- TNCSC/25-26
Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation invites online short electronic tender for **"PURCHASE OF 60,000 MTs. of S-30 grade SUGAR for the month of June 2025, July 2025 and August 2025 [Season 2024-25]".**
Complete short e-Tender document can be viewed and downloaded from **https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app**
The bidders have to participate online bidding only with Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) of Class-II or Class-III.
Last Date and time for Online Submission : 24.04.2025 upto 11.00 AM
DIPR/1440/Tender/2025 Managing Director

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
CMG, SDSC - SHAR SRIHARIKOTA - 524124
Brief E-TENDER NOTICE : CORRIGENDUM-I
No: e-Tender Notice No.CMG/C/CON/248742 - (I) Dt: 07.04.2025
Refer to Tender No CMG/C/CON/248742 dated 11.03.2025. Name of work: **"Construction of Ancillary services/ facilities with allied Civil, PH, Electrical & Mechanical works, including: (i) Water treatment plant and 500 Cum domestic water GLR (ii) External water supply system (iii) 400 Cum raw water collection GLR cum pump house and pumps & pumping mains (iv) 400 Cum GLR and Pump house for External Firefighting at SSLV Launch complex (SLC), Tiruchendur & Sathankulam Taluks, Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu on EPC Mode – III (Package-6)"** (Est. cost Rs. 827 Lakhs). **Sale period extended upto 18.04.2025.** Interested tenderers may visit **www.isro.gov.in** or **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO** for details.
Sd/- GROUP HEAD, CMG/SDSC SHAR

NEW YORK

UN chief blames Israel, says Gaza is transformed into 'killing field'



AFP

United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said on Tuesday that Gaza had become "a killing field," blaming Israel for blocking aid and failing in its "unequivocal obligations" to meet the needs of the Palestinian territory's residents. "As aid has dried up, floodgates of horror have re-opened," Mr. Guterres said. AFP

COLOMBO

Sri Lanka Parliament votes to sack police chief for abuse of power

REUTERS

Sri Lanka's Parliament approved a resolution to fire chief of police Deshabandu Tennakoon for misconduct and abuse of power. Of the 225 members, 151 voted in favour of the resolution that included a few opposition members. A large number of opposition members were absent from the House when the voting took place. PTI

SANTO DOMINGO

At least 44 dead in Dominican Republic nightclub roof collapse

AP

Rescuers raced to find survivors on Tuesday among the rubble of a Dominican Republic night club where at least 27 people died and more than 100 were hurt in an early-morning roof collapse. There were between 500 and 1,000 people in the club located in the capital of Santo Domingo when disaster struck. AFP

SEOUL

South Korea sets presidential polls for June 3 to find Yoon's successor

AP

South Korea will hold presidential polls on June 3, the country's Prime Minister and acting President Han Duck-soo said on Tuesday, after former leader Yoon Suk Yeol (in picture) was removed from office over a disastrous declaration of martial law. The democratic country has been effectively leaderless since December. AFP

U.S., Iran set to start direct, high-level talks over nuclear issue, says Trump

Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi confirms that discussions will be held in Oman on Saturday, but stresses that they are indirect talks; Trump says he is hopeful of reaching a deal, but warns that Iran will be in 'great danger' if the talks fail

Agence France-Presse
WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump has said Washington is starting direct, high-level talks with Iran over its nuclear programme on Saturday, in a shock announcement during a White House meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Speaking on Monday in the Oval Office, Mr. Trump said he was hopeful of reaching a deal with Tehran, but warned that the Islamic republic would be in "great danger" if the talks failed.

Tehran confirmed discussions were set for Saturday in Oman, but stressed they were "indirect" talks.

History of reneging: Donald Trump had pulled out of the previous nuclear deal in 2018, during the tenure of his first presidency. AFP

According to Iranian news agency Tasnim, Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi will attend the talks, as will the top U.S. envoy to West Asia, Steve Witkoff.

"It is as much an opportunity as it is a test," Mr. Araghchi wrote on X. "The ball is in America's court."

Mr. Netanyahu, meanwhile, said the U.S. and Israel were working on another deal to free hostages from war-torn Gaza, where a ceasefire between Israel and Iran's ally Hamas has collapsed.

"We're dealing with the Iranians, we have a very big meeting on Saturday and we're dealing with them directly," Mr. Trump told reporters after a meeting that was meant to focus on Israel's bid to avoid U.S. tariffs.

Mr. Trump did not say where the talks would take place, but insisted they would not involve surrogates and would be at "almost the highest level".

Mr. Trump's stunning announcement came after Iran dismissed direct negotiations on a new deal to curb the country's nuclear programme, calling the idea pointless.

The U.S. President pulled out of the last deal in 2018, during his first presidency, and there has been widespread speculation that Israel might attack Iranian facilities if no new agreement is reached.

Mr. Trump issued a stern warning to Tehran, however. "I think if the talks aren't successful with Iran, I think Iran's going to be in great danger, and I hate to say it, great danger, because they can't have a nuclear weapon," he said.

China's military expansion is 'staggering', says NATO chief

Agence France-Presse
TOKYO

China's expansion of its armed forces is "staggering", NATO's chief said on a visit to Japan beginning Tuesday aimed at "projecting" the alliance's power in the Asia-Pacific region.

"Let us not be naive about China," Secretary General Mark Rutte told the *Japan Times*.

"The build-up of their armed forces and investments in their defence industry, and in their defence capabilities, is staggering," Mr. Rutte said in the interview published on Monday.

The comment came as he visited the Yokosuka naval base and a Japanese defence contractor on Tuesday before meeting Defence Minister Gen Nakatani to call for further cooperation.

Outreach activity: Mark Rutte takes questions from the media at the Yokosuka Base in Kanagawa in Japan on Tuesday. AFP

"NATO and Japan share the same values and we face many of the same challenges," Mr. Rutte told Mr. Nakatani. "China, North Korea and Russia are stepping up their military exercises and their cooperation, undermining global stability, and that means what happens in the Euro-Atlantic matters for the Indo-Pacific and vice versa."

"A stronger Japan-NATO cooperation is necessary in an increasingly dangerous world," he said.

Mr. Nakatani echoed the sentiment as Japan goes through a multi-year project to double its military spending to meet changing threats. Rutte was due to meet Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba on Wednesday.

North Korean troops briefly cross South Korea border

Agence France-Presse
SEOUL

South Korea's military said on Tuesday its troops fired warning shots when around 10 North Korean soldiers briefly crossed the heavily fortified border that divides the peninsula.

The troops were spotted around 5 p.m. (0800 GMT) in the demilitarised zone between the two countries, parts of which are heavily mined and overgrown.

"Our military conducted a warning broadcast and fired warning shots, and the North Korean soldiers moved north," Seoul officials said. Some of the soldiers who crossed the frontier were armed and wearing bulletproof vests.

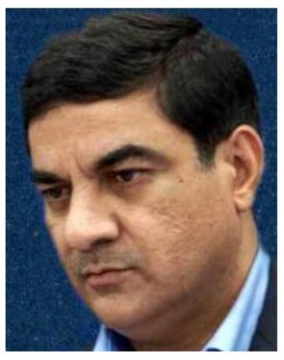
U.K. court refuses India's plea to appeal Bhandari's discharge

Press Trust of India
LONDON

The High Court in London on Tuesday refused the Government of India's application seeking permission to appeal in Britain's Supreme Court against the discharge of Sanjay Bhandari, the defence sector consultant wanted in Delhi to face charges of alleged tax evasion and money laundering.

Lord Justice Timothy Holroyde handed down the judgment at a brief "pronouncement" hearing at the Royal Courts of Justice in response to the Indian government's application filed last month.

It followed Mr. Holroyde and Justice Karen Steyn's February 28 High Court judgment granting the 62-year-old businessman's appeal against being extradited on human rights grounds.



Sanjay Bhandari

"The court received an application from the Government of India seeking certification of points of law of general importance and grant leave to appeal to the Supreme Court," said Justice Holroyde.

"Having considered the written submissions, the court is satisfied that no oral hearing is necessary, and no further submissions required," Justice Holroyde said.

The Government of India, as respondent in the extradition case, had filed the application as the first in a two-step process.

But with the first stage being refused, government officials familiar with the case are yet to confirm if a further permission to appeal application may be pursued directly with the U.K. Supreme Court.

Back in February, the court had ordered Mr. Bhandari's "discharge" from then U.K. Home Secretary Suella Braverman's extradition order to face criminal proceedings in India on the basis of a Westminster Magistrates' Court ruling in November 2022.

Soyuz spacecraft heads to the ISS, carrying two Russians and one American astronaut

Agence France-Presse
ALMATY

A Soyuz spacecraft carrying an American and two Russians on Tuesday launched from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan to head to the International Space Station.

The MS-27 craft, which was decorated to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the end of the Second World War, took off at 10.47 a.m. (11.17 a.m. IST), according to televised images shown by the Russian Roscosmos space agency.

It entered orbit a few minutes later and is due to dock in the Russian segment of the ISS at 0904 GMT.

New avenues: The Soyuz MS-27 spacecraft blasting off the launch pad at the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan. AFP

Onboard were Russian cosmonauts Sergey Ryzhikov and Alexey Zubritsky, as well as NASA astronaut Jonny Kim.

They are due to carry out 50 scientific experiments in space, Roscosmos said, before returning to Earth on December 9.

A record of around 2,500 tourists watched the launch from Baikonur, Roscosmos said.

Russia has been renting the site from Kazakhstan since the fall of the Soviet Union more than 33 years ago.

Moscow pays Almaty $115 million a year and has a contract until 2050.

Domain of cooperation

Space is one of the few remaining areas of cooperation between Russia and the U.S., whose relationship deteriorated significantly after Moscow sent troops into Ukraine in February 2022. The return to the White House of U.S. President Donald Trump, however, has sparked a thawing of tensions.

PUBLIC NOTICE

We **M/s M.M. INDUSTRIAL ESTATE,** hereby bring to the notice of General Public that State Level Environmental Impact Assessment Authority, Karnataka (Constituted by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India) has granted Environmental Clearance for construction of Proposed Residential Development with at PID No. 59-82-45 at Yediyur, K.R. Road, Bangalore South Taluk & District, bearing (File No. SEIAA 243 CON 2023, Dated: 04.12.2023 and a copy of clearance letter can also be seen on the website of Parivesh Portal - SEIAA Karnataka at **https://parivesh.nic.in**

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
GENERAL HOSPITAL JAYANAGAR, BANGALORE
Medical Superintendent Office, Bangalore-560041.

No.GHJ/stationery items/RE-TENDER/01/2024-25 Dated:07.04.2025

TENDER NOTICE

E-Tender has been invited under General Hospital Jayanagar Bengaluru, for the supply of stationery items for the period of one year for the year of 2025-26.

Tender Details:

Opening date of uploading tender form through e-portal	**11.04.2025 onwards**
Last date for submission of e-tender through e-portal	**25.04.2025 at 4.00 PM**
Opening date & time of the e-tender	**28.04.2025 at 5.00 PM**
Opening date & time of Financial bid proposals through e-portal	**05.05.2025**

ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರುಗಳ ನಿಯಮ ಮತ್ತು ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನಮೂನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಲಗತ್ತಿಸಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. E-Tender upload through this website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

DIPR/CP/AAA/138/2025-26

Sd/- Medical Superintendent, General Hospital Jayanagar, Bangalore

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, DIVISION, CHITRADURGA

No.EE:PWD:CTA:AE-3:Tender-02:2025-26 Dated:- 08.04.2025

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tenders are invited from registered Contractors in KPWD for the following work through KPPP Portal as per standard tender documents rules.

Name of work:- Two cover System:- Head of Account 5054-04-337-0-01-154 MDR Improvements :-**(1)** Improvements to NH-150A to Banjigere via Bedareddyhalli road from Km 0.00 to 4.20 (working reach Km 0.00 to 4.30) in Challakere Taluk. (W.I.20914)

Estimate Cost Rs. in Lakhs:-200.00

Tenders dates are as mentioned below: Late Date & time for Tender Queries/ Clarifications 25-04-2025 Time: 17.30
Last Date & time for receipt of tenders 28-04-2025 Time: 16.00
Date & time for opening of Technical Bid 29-04-2025 Time: 16.15
Date & time for opening of Financial Bid 02-05-2025 Time: 11.00
Further details can be obtained from this office and H.P. Company helpline Numbers 080-25501216 and 080-25501227.

DIPR/CTA/KSMCA/11/2025-26

Sd/- Executive Engineer PWD, Chitradurga.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Senior Assistant Director Education, Head office BBMP, N R Square, Bengaluru-560002, Ph: 080-22975728, email id: eoeducation@yahoo.in

No: BBMP/2025-26/IND0131 **Date: 08-04-2025**

Tender Notification

Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike invites TENDER FOR PROPOSAL FOR SUPPLY OF SCOUTS AND GUIDES UNIFORM for BBMP School and Colleges Students for the academic Year 2025-26, from eligible bidders.
Following is the Events of Bid process:

Tender Reference No	BBMP/2025-26/IND0131
Date of Commencement of Download of Tender Document from Karnataka Public Procurement portal **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**	On 08/04/2025 onwards
Date, Time & Venue of Pre-bid Meeting	11.04.2025 11:30 am at Office Of Senior Assistant Director, 1st floor, Annexe 3 building, Head Office, BBMP Bengaluru.
Last Date and Time for uploading Online Queries in Karnataka Public Procurement portal	**11/04/2025 upto 5:00 PM**
Last Date and Time for uploading of e-Tender in Karnataka Public Procurement portal	**25/04/2025 upto 5:00 PM**
Date and Time of Online Opening of Technical Bids in Karnataka Public Procurement portal	**28/04/2025 11:00 am**
Date and Time of Sample submisison	Will be intimated after technical bid opening
Address for Communication	Office Of Senior Assistant Director, 1st floor, Annexe 3 building, Head Office, BBMP Bengaluru. Phone: 9480685297 Email: eoeducation@yahoo.in

1.Tender documents may be downloaded from the web site **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**
2. Other details can be seen in the tender documents.

Sd/- Senior Assistant Director. BBMP.

Uttarakhand Power Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of Uttarakhand Undertaking)
Corporate Identity No.: U40109UR2001SGC025867
Victoria Cross Vijeta Gabar Singh Urja Bhawan, Kanwali Road, Dehradun-248001
Telephone-(0135) 2762444, Fax: (0135) 2763839 Web: www.upcl.org, Mail ID: cgmupcl@yahoo.com

Websites:(www.mstcecommerce.com)

CORRIGENDUM FOR PURCHASE OF POWER UNDER LONG TERM PROCUREMENT AGAINST TENDER SPECIFICATION No. 21/CE(COMM)/UPCL-21/LTPP/2025

The amended tender process and activities timeline modifications against tender specification No. 21/CE (COMM)/UPCL-21/LTPP/2025 are as under:-

S. No.	Event	Date & Time
1.	Utility response to queries latest by	15.04.2025 up to 17:00 Hrs
2.	Application due date	30.04.2025 up to 17:00 Hrs
3.	Announcement of Pre-qualified Applications	21.05.2025 up to 17:00 Hrs
4.	Letter of Award (LOA)	Within 30 days of Bid due date
5.	Validity of Bids	120 days from Bid Due Date
6.	Signing of PSA-DBFOO	Within 30 days of issue of LOA

Hard Copy of B.G/proof of EMD should reach in the office of SE(Commercial), UPCL on or before the due date of application.

All other terms and conditions shall remain as per tender specification No. 21/CE (COMM)/UPCL-21/LTPP/2025.

No. 175/EE(CM)/UPCL/A-2 Date: 08.04.2025 **SE (COMMERCIAL)**

"SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF THE NATIONS" Use LED Bulb to Save Electricity. (Toll Free No. 1912) "Pay Electricity bill online 24x7 from www.upcl.org" (For information on Electricity Theft, informer may report to Toll Free No. 1800 180 4185/ Fax No. 0135-2760911)

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

If I say something about the pitch it'll create a ruckus, says Rahane

K.R. DEEPAK

There's been enough talk about the pitch. If I say something, it'll create a ruckus. You can write whatever you want about home advantage. If I've to say something, I will tell the authorities concerned. The support has been amazing for us. When Virat (Kohli) and M.S. (Dhoni) come, it's normal that people will support them — KKR captain Ajinkya Rahane

GETTING ALONG

Marsh takes the game forward quite quickly: Markram

K.R. DEEPAK

Aiden Markram is pleased with his opening partnership with Mitchell Marsh for LSG. After the four-run win over KKR on Tuesday, Markram said: "We're getting along really nicely and he takes the game forward quite quickly. If you can get your team off to a good quick start, it goes a long way in terms of setting the game up".

ON TOP

Bhuvneshwar becomes most successful pacer in IPL history

REUTERS

Bhuvneshwar Kumar overtook Dwayne Bravo to become the most successful pacer in the IPL. He achieved the milestone when he dismissed MI's Tilak Varma. He has 184 wickets from 179 games (Bravo: 183 from 161). He is also third in the all-time wicket-takers' list behind Yuzvendra Chahal (206) and Piyush Chawla (192).

HEFTY FINE

Royal Challengers captain Patidar penalised for team's slow over-rate

EMMANUAL YOGINI

Royal Challengers Bengaluru captain Rajat Patidar was fined ₹12 lakh after his team maintained a slow over-rate during its 12-run win over Mumbai Indians in the IPL on Monday. "As this was his team's first offence of the season under Article 2.2 of the IPL's Code of Conduct, Patidar was fined Rs 12 lakh," stated an IPL release.

Priyansh and PBKS rub salt into CSK's wounds

The rookie opener rides his luck to score an explosive maiden ton; the Chennai outfit falls short yet again in a chase and slumps to its fourth loss in a row; Conway flatters to deceive

Whirlwind knock: Priyansh hit seven fours and nine sixes in his 39-ball hundred. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

IPL-18

Sankar Narayanan E.H.
NEW CHANDIGARH

Priyansh Arya's chancy yet audacious 103 (42b, 7x4, 9x6) was the highlight of Punjab Kings' 18-run win over Chennai Super Kings at the Maharaja Yadavindra Singh Stadium here on Tuesday.

There were plenty of catches grassed in this IPL fixture and at the end of it all, PBKS defended its 219 for six as CSK's effort stopped at 201 for five.

The first six of the chase came only in the 10th over when Shivam Dube muscled one off Lockie Ferguson.

Conway then got two reprieves in two balls off Marco Jansen with Yuzvendra Chahal and Yash Thakur being the culprits.

Ferguson castled Dube to redeem himself for dropping the left-hander's catch off Arshdeep Singh.

A lot happened in Ferguson's 18th over. M.S. Dhoni smoked a six over long-off. Ravindra Jadeja came in to bat after Devon Conway (69, 49b, 6x4, 2x6) was retired out. Dhoni then hit another maximum to make the equation 43 off two overs.

Yash Thakur, after dropping Dhoni off Arshdeep in the 19th over, dismissed the wicketkeeper-batter off the first ball of the 20th and sealed PBKS' victory.

Earlier, after choosing to bat, the host lost wickets up front at the cost of going big.

Priyansh, though, kept on playing shots. He started with two majestic maximums over the point region off Khaleel Ahmed. In between, he was dropped by the left-arm seamer.

Priyansh found an able ally in Shashank Singh (52 n.o., 36b, 2x4, 3x6) and forged a 71-run partnership.

During this stand, the opener got another life as Mukesh Choudhary touched the boundary cushion after taking the catch off R. Ashwin.

Priyansh then went into overdrive, smoking Matheesha Pathirana for three consecutive sixes. His boundary right after the hat-trick of maximums signalled a 39-ball ton.

The vociferous crowd enjoyed that as Priyansh soaked in what he had just accomplished.

After Noor Ahmad got Priyansh caught at long-on, PBKS' score read 154 for six in 13.4 overs. Shashank and Marco Jansen (34 n.o., 19b, 2x4, 2x6) took over from where Priyansh left off with an unbroken 65-run stand. Even Shashank rode his luck as he was dropped by Rachin Ravindra in the 17th over.

While CSK's lapses proved costly, PBKS walked away with the win.

SCOREBOARD

PUNJAB KINGS
Priyansh Arya c Vijay Shankar b Noor 103 (*42b, 7x4, 9x6*), Prabhsimran Singh b Mukesh 0 (*2b*), Shreyas Iyer b Khaleel 9 (*7b, 1x6*), Marcus Stoinis c Conway b Khaleel 4 (*7b*), Nehal Wadhera c Dhoni b Ashwin 9 (*7b, 1x6*), Glenn Maxwell c & b Ashwin 1 (*2b*), Shashank Singh (not out) 52 (*36b, 2x4, 3x6*), Marco Jansen (not out) 34 (*19b, 2x4, 2x6*); Extras (lb-3, nb-2, w-2): 7; Total (for six wkts. in 20 overs): 219.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-17 (Prabhsimran, 1.2 overs), 2-32 (Shreyas, 2.4), 3-54 (Stoinis, 4.6), 4-81 (Wadhera, 7.2), 5-83 (Maxwell, 7.6), 6-154 (Priyansh, 13.4).

SUPER KINGS BOWLING
Khaleel 4-0-45-2, Mukesh 2-0-21-1, Ashwin 4-0-48-2, Jadeja 3-0-18-0, Noor 3-0-32-1, Pathirana 4-0-52-0.

CHENNAI SUPER KINGS
Rachin Ravindra st. Prabhsimran b Maxwell 37 (*23b, 6x4*), Devon Conway retired out 69 (*49b, 6x4, 2x6*), Ruturaj Gaikwad c Shashank b Ferguson 1 (*3b*), Shivam Dube (**Impact Player for Pathirana**) b Ferguson 42 (*27b, 3x4, 2x6*), M.S. Dhoni c Chahal b Yash Thakur 27 (*12b, 1x4, 3x6*), Ravindra Jadeja (not out) 9 (*5b, 1x6*), Vijay Shankar (not out) 2 (*2b*); Extras (lb-5, nb-1, w-9): 15; Total (for five wkts. in 20 overs): 201.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-61 (Rachin, 6.3), 2-62 (Ruturaj, 7.2), 3-151 (Dube, 15.5), 4-171 (Conway, 17.5), 5-192 (Dhoni, 19.1).

KINGS BOWLING
Arshdeep 4-0-39-0, Yash Thakur (**Impact Player for Priyansh**) 4-0-39-1, Maxwell 2-0-11-1, Jansen 4-0-48-0, Ferguson 4-0-40-2, Stoinis 1-0-10-0, Chahal 1-0-9-0.

Toss: PBKS.
PoM: Priyansh.
Kings won by 18 runs.

Next assignment

CSK: April 11 vs KKR
Chennai, 7.30 p.m

PBKS: April 12 vs SRH
Hyderabad, 7.30 p.m.

Marsh, Pooran on song as LSG scrapes past KKR in a run-fest

Y.B. Sarangi
KOLKATA

Mitchell Marsh and Nicholas Pooran's awe-inspiring half-centuries set up Lucknow Super Giants' exciting four-run win over Kolkata Knight Riders in a high-scoring contest in the Indian Premier League at the Eden Gardens here on Tuesday.

Put in, LSG piled on a massive 238 for three before restricting KKR to 234 for seven for its third victory.

LSG openers Marsh (81, 48b, 6x4, 5x6) and Aiden Markram (47, 28b, 4x4, 2x6), mixed watchfulness with smart shot selection, choosing the erratic Aussie left-arm pacer Spencer Johnson for special treatment, to build a solid 99-run partnership.

Harshit Rana castled Markram, who hit two spectacular sixes over mid-wicket and third-man, in the 11th over.

Marsh formed another rapid 30-ball 71-run stand with Pooran.

The clinical Marsh clubbed some lusty sixes while showing his flair on the leg-side before displaying his range on the off. He adjusted well to the slow pitch to score his fourth half-century this season before being caught at backward point.

As the KKR bowlers struggled to apply the brakes, an effortless Pooran unleashed a breathtaking assault. The brutal southpaw ruled the off-side before plundering runs on the leg-side. He was severe on his fellow Caribbean Andre Russell, smashing him for 24 runs in the 18th over.

Orange Cap holder Pooran (87 n.o., 36b, 7x4, 8x6) achieved his highest IPL score as LSG, which collected 60 in the last four, bulldozed to its second highest total.

Blitzkrieg: Marsh and Pooran toyed with the KKR bowling attack to pile on the runs. K.R. DEEPAK

Despite losing Quinton de Kock early, KKR raced to 90 in the Powerplay. Sunil Narine and captain Ajinkya Rahane were involved in a brisk 54-run partnership for the second wicket.

Exquisite placement

While Narine picked his spots nicely, a classy Rahane (61, 35b, 8x4, 2x6) accelerated with his exquisite placement and array of proper strokes.

Rookie Digvesh Rathi succeeded in his first over, dismissing his idol Narine, and showcased another 'notebook celebration', this time on grass.

With his deputy Venkatesh Iyer (45, 29b, 6x4, 1x6), Rahane added a crucial 40-ball 71.

Rahane was sent back by Shardul Thakur after bowling five consecutive wides in the 13th over.

The dismissal triggered a collapse as the home side lost five wickets for the addition of 23 runs.

Though a never-say-die Rinku Singh (38 n.o., 15b, 6x4, 2x6) fought on, a win eluded KKR.

SCOREBOARD

LUCKNOW SUPER GIANTS
Aiden Markram b Harshit 47 (*28b, 4x4, 2x6*), Mitchell Marsh c Rinku b Russell 81 (*48b, 6x4, 5x6*), Nicholas Pooran (not out) 87 (*36b, 7x4, 8x6*), Abdul Samad b Harshit 6 (*4b, 1x4*), David Miller (not out) 4 (*4b*); Extras (b-2, lb-3, w-8): 13; Total (for three wkts. in 20 overs): 238.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-99 (Markram, 10.2 overs), 2-170 (Marsh, 15.2), 3-221 (Samad, 18.2).

KNIGHT RIDERS BOWLING
Vaibhav 4-0-35-0, Johnson 3-0-46-0, Varun 4-0-31-0, Harshit 4-0-51-2, Narine 3-0-38-0, Russell 2-0-32-0.

KOLKATA KNIGHT RIDERS
Quinton de Kock lbw b Akash 15 (*9b, 2x6*), Sunil Narine c Markram b Digvesh 30 (*13b, 4x4, 2x6*), Ajinkya Rahane c Pooran b Shardul 61 (*35b, 8x4, 2x6*), Venkatesh Iyer c Markram b Akash 45 (*29b, 6x4, 1x6*), Ramandeep Singh c Markram b Bishnoi 1 (*2b*), Angkrish Raghuvanshi (**Impact Player for Varun**) c Pant b Avesh 5 (*4b, 1x4*), Andre Russell c Miller b Shardul 7 (*4b, 1x6*), Rinku Singh (not out) 38 (*15b, 6x4, 2x6*), Harshit Rana (not out) 10 (*9b, 2x4*); Extras (b-1, lb-1, w-20): 22; Total (for seven wkts. in 20 overs): 234.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-37 (de Kock, 2.3), 2-91 (Narine, 6.2), 3-162 (Rahane, 12.6), 4-166 (Ramandeep, 13.6), 5-173 (Raghuvanshi, 14.6), 6-177 (Venkatesh, 15.2), 7-185 (Russell, 16.1)

SUPER GIANTS BOWLING
Akash 4-0-55-2, Shardul 4-0-52-2, Avesh 4-0-45-1, Digvesh 4-0-33-1, Bishnoi (**Impact Player for Marsh**) 4-0-47-1.

Toss: KKR; **PoM:** Pooran.
LSG won by four runs.

Next assignment

KKR: April 11 vs CSK
Chennai, 7.30 p.m.

LSG: April 12 vs GT
Lucknow, 3.30 p.m

In-form Buttler returns for showdown against Royals

P.K. Ajith Kumar
AHMEDABAD

Jos Buttler will see a very familiar colour on the opposite side on Wednesday night: pink. Rajasthan Royals must be hoping he doesn't see red.

The Royals letting go of Buttler, who struck seven hundreds in as many IPL seasons for them, was one of the biggest surprises of the last auction. The England superstar may have been dismissed for a duck in the previous match, but before that, his scores for Gujarat Titans read 54, 39 and 73 not out.

Buttler would be just one of the concerns for Royals at the Narendra Modi Stadium.

With three wins on the trot, the Titans are looking good at the moment.

Mohammed Siraj is fresh and fiery. R. Sai Kishore has batters in a spin. Captain Shubman Gill and B. Sai Sudharsan are complementing each other wonderfully with strokes of elegance. Washington Sundar is getting the fans hooked again, reminding them of his immortal hook against Pat Cummins in India's greatest Test win four years ago at the Gabba. And Sherfane Rutherford is striking at close to 177.

So RR's bowlers have a task on their hands on a track the batters have largely relished. But the visiting side could take heart from Jofra Archer's magnificent return to form.

And the Royals have run into some form themselves, too. They have won their last two matches, after losing the first two of the season.

Yashasvi Jaiswal's return to form could not have been timed better. That should take some pressure off his opening partner and skipper, Sanju Samson.

Today's match

GUJARAT TITANS vs. RAJASTHAN ROYALS

Ahmedabad, 7.30 p.m.

HEAD-TO-HEAD
Played: 6
GT 5 | RR 1

PREVIOUS MEETING
GT won by **three wickets**, 2024

LIVE ON STAR SPORTS 1 (SD & HD) & JIOHOTSTAR

Perfect timing: Yashasvi Jaiswal's return to form could take some pressure off Sanju Samson. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

I love bowling; just about being ready when the opportunity comes, says Washington

P.K. Ajith Kumar
AHMEDABAD

Washington Sundar has this ability to produce something special when he is given an opportunity. Remember his innings on Test debut, four years ago, that turned India's most famous chase around?

After playing just nine games in the last couple of IPL seasons, for Sunrisers Hyderabad, he made his debut for Gujarat Titans against his former side at Hyderabad a couple of days ago.

Coming down at No. 4, after the early loss of two in-form batters B. Sai Sudarshan and Jos Buttler, he made a 29-ball 49 – his highest IPL score – to help his new team score a seven-wicket victory.

Job done

"It felt amazing to contribute to the team's victory, and getting to bat at No. 4 was a great opportunity, thanks to the coach," Washington said on the eve of GT's match against Rajasthan Royals. "I had a good time in the middle and was able to do the things that I was supposed to do."

After making a sudden impact with the bat, the off-spinning all-rounder is looking forward to getting a ball (which he didn't against SRH).

"I love bowling," he said, smiling. "It is just about me being ready when the opportunity comes and picking up a few wickets."

Rajasthan Royals' fast bowling coach Shane Bond believes it will be a challenging game.

"It is a pretty intimidating atmosphere here, but it is a fun atmosphere," he said. "We have come in here with a great deal of confidence."

INBRIEF

Napoli misses chance to close in on Serie A leader Inter

Napoli missed the chance to close the gap on Serie A leader Inter Milan to a single point when it drew at Bologna 1-1. Bologna will be the happier side at moving a step closer to a second successive Champions League place by leapfrogging Juventus into the fourth spot.

The results: Serie A: Bologna 1 (Ndoye 64) drew with Napoli 1 (Anguissa 18). **LaLiga:** Leganes 1 (Raba 87) drew with Osasuna 1 (Herrando 49)

Bopanna-Shelton pair advances in Monte Carlo

Rohan Bopanna and Ben Shelton of USA beat Francisco Cerundolo and Alejandro Tabilo 6-3, 7-5 in the first round of the €6,128,940 ATP tournament in Monte Carlo. In pre-quarterfinals, Bopanna and Shelton will challenge third seeds Simone Bolelli and Andrea Vavassori of Italy.

The results: €6,128,940 ATP, Monte Carlo, Monaco: Doubles (first round): Alex De Minaur (Aus) & Jan-Lennard Struff (Ger) bt Yuki Bhambri & Alexei Popyrin (Aus) 5-7, 7-5, [10-5]; Rohan Bopanna & Ben Shelton (USA) bt Francisco Cerundolo (Arg) & Alejandro Tabilo (Chi) 6-3, 7-5.
$30,000 ITF men, Santa Margherita di Pula, Italy: Singles (first round): Manas Dhamne bt Gian Matias Di Natale (Ita) 7-6(6), 6-7(4), 6-3.

Dhruv-Tanisha duo enters the pre-quarterfinals

The Indian mixed doubles pair of Dhruv Kapila and Tanisha Crasto battled hard to beat Hoo Pang Ron and Su Yin Cheng of Malaysia to enter the pre-quarterfinals of the Badminton Asia Championships in Ningbo (China) on Tuesday.

The results (first round): Dhruv Kapila & Tanisha Crasto bt Hoo Pang Ron & Su Yin Cheng (Mas) 15-21, 21-12, 21-11; Soon Huat Goh & Shevon Jamie Lai (Mas) bt Satish Kumar Karunakaran & Aadya Variyath 21-18, 21-19; Thulith Palliyaguru & Panchali Adhikari (Mas) bt Ashith Surya & Amrutha Pramuthesh 21-9, 21-11; Roy King Yap & Valeree Siow (Mas) bt Rohan Kapoor & Ruthvika Shivani Gadde 18-21, 21-17, 21-17.

India grouped with Korea, Australia, Pakistan in WJT

The Indian boys have been clubbed with top seed Korea, seventh seed Australia and Pakistan in Group-A in the Asian-Oceania World Junior Tennis (WJT) under-14 championship to be played in Kuching, Malaysia, from Wednesday. The top two teams from each of the four groups will qualify for the knockout stage.

The groupings: A: Korea, India, Pakistan, Australia; **B:** Kazakhstan, Iran, Indonesia, Japan.
C: Thailand, New Zealand, Singapore, Taiwan; **D:** Hong Kong, Sri Lanka, Uzbekistan, China.

Bangalore City FC has it easy against Vijayanagar FC

Bangalore City FC defeated Vijayanagar FC 2-0 in the BDFA 'A' division football league championship in Bengaluru.

The results: Bangalore City FC 2 (S. Karthi 38, D. Anurag 45) bt Vijayanagar FC 0; Young Challengers FC 2 (G. Raju 40, 66) bt Jawahar Union 1 (Anish Bhambani 53).

Billie Jean King gets a Hollywood Walk of Fame star

Billie Jean King became the first woman to receive a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in the new sports entertainment category. Joined by basketball legend Magic Johnson and Oscar-winning actor Jamie Lee Curtis, King received the 2,807th star and its electronic marque read 'A star for a star. Congratulations Billie Jean King'. "The important things is, I don't want to be the last one," the Hall of Fame tennis player told the crowd on Monday.

LIVE TELECAST

IPL: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 7.30 p.m.
Champions League: Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 12.30 a.m.(Thursday)

Lulu does the star turn as New Zealand bounces back to down India

After Shrivalli gives the host a rousing star, the Kiwi player wins her singles match before pairing up with Monique to register the 2-1 win

TENNIS

Kamesh Srinivasan
PUNE

The Indian team went down fighting 1-2 in a thriller against New Zealand, as World No. 41 Lulu Sun pulled her weight in both singles and doubles for the Kiwis, in the Asia-Oceania Billie Jean King Cup women's tennis championship here at the Balewadi Stadium on Tuesday.

Stars of the day: After Shrivalli had waltzed past Aishi, Lulu delivered for New Zealand with two impressive victories. KAMESH SRINIVASAN

Vibrant atmosphere
Playing in a vibrant atmosphere, Ankita Raina and Prarthana Thombare saved three match points on Lulu's serve before bowing out 3-6, 4-6 in the decisive doubles.

Ankita and Prarthana had led 4-2 in the second set before the Kiwis, both left-handers, regrouped their game to match the craft and intensity of the Indian pair.

Shrivalli had earlier given a rousing start for the host by winning the first singles 6-1, 6-1 against Aishi Das. Serving well and stroking with flair, Shrivalli was concentration personified in executing a fine opener for India.

Sahaja Yamalapalli fought hard in the second singles against the Wimbledon quarterfinalist, but Lulu raced ahead to put the Kiwis on par with a 6-3, 6-3 victory.

It was a tough start for Ankita and Prarthana in the doubles under the floodlights, before they made the competition come alive with some robust tennis and imaginative play.

The New Zealanders were relieved to pull through, but India, under the guidance of captain Vishal Uppal, had given every hint of being well prepared for the challenges ahead.

India will next next play Thailand on Wednesday.

Thailand blanked Hong Kong 3-0 and Korea got past Taiwan with a similar scoreline in the other matches of the day.

The results (league):

New Zealand bt India 2-1 (Aishi Das lost to Shrivalli Bhamidipaty 1-6, 1-6; Lulu Sun bt Sahaja Yamalapalli 6-3, 6-3; Lulu Sun & Monique Barry bt Ankita Raina & Prarthana Thombare 6-3, 6-4).

Korea bt Taiwan 3-0 (Sohyun Park bt Ya-Hsuan Lee 6-1, 6-3; Dayeon Back bt Joanna Garland 6-4, 2-6, 6-4, Kim Dabin & Eunhye Lee bt Fang-Hsien Wu & Y Tsen Cho 7-6(3), 3-6, [10-8]).

Thailand bt Hong Kong 3-0 (Lanlana Tararudee bt Ho Ching Wu 6-1, 6-4; Mananchaya Sawangkaew bt Hong Yi Cody Wong 3-6, 6-2, 6-1; Penagtarn Plipuech & Patcharin Cheapchandej bt HOng Yi Cody Wong & Man Ying Maggie Ng 6-3, 6-4).

Chepngeno heads women's field in TCS World 10K

Sports Bureau
BENGALURU

Kenya's Cintia Chepngeno will lead the international women's elite field in the TCS World 10K Bengaluru to be held on April 27.

Cintia (personal best 30:08s) had secured a silver medal in the Macau 10K held earlier this year.

Her country-mate Gladys Kwamboka Mong'are, the reigning African champion in the 10,000m who finished fifth in Bengaluru last year, has a personal best of 30:24s.

Eritrea's Rahel Daniel, Ethiopia's 2023 African junior champion Asmarech Anley and Ugandan Sarah Chelangat are some of the other contenders. Ugandan Olympian and multiple-time global medallist Joshua Cheptegei and 2020 Delhi Half-Marathon bronze medallist Stephen Kissa lead the international elite men's field.

Chepngeno.

Suruchi Singh wins air pistol gold

Sports Bureau
NEW DELHI

Suruchi Singh asserted her undisputed class as she defeated three Chinese, with a 2.4 point margin for the women's air pistol gold, in the shooting World Cup in Buenos Aires on Tuesday.

Suruchi, who had swept the three gold medals in the women's, juniors and youth events in the last National championships, had topped the qualification with 583. It was the third gold for India.

China led with three gold, two silver and two bronze while India was in second spot with three gold, a silver and a bronze.

The results: Women: 10m air pistol: 1. Suruchi Singh 244.6 (583); 2. Qian Wei (Chn) 241.9 (582); 3. Jiang Ranxin (Chn) 221.0 (582); 13. Manu Bhaker 574; 14. Surbhi Rao 574; RPO: Sainyam 572; Simranpreet Kaur Brar 569.
10m air rifle: 1. Wang Zifei (Chn) 254.1 (635.0); 2. Kwon Eunji (Kor) 253.1 (636.7); 3. Audrey Gogniat (Sui) 231.4 (634.7); 6. Narmada Nithin 166.3 (632.8); 8. Sonam Maskar 124.4 (631.6); 24. Arya Borse 627.3;
Ranking Points Only: Elavenil Valarivan 629.7.

Concussion setbacks end Will Pucovski's promising career

Agence France-Presse
SYDNEY

Former Australia opener Will Pucovski retired from cricket at the age of 27 on Tuesday after a string of concussions, saying he would not risk "any more damage to my brain".

Free-scoring batter Pucovski was earmarked for future greatness after he made his Australia debut as a 22-year-old in 2021, scoring an impressive 62 against India in the third Test in Sydney.

But it was to be his sole international appearance after he dislocated his shoulder while fielding in that match, one of a series of injuries and concussions that derailed his promising career.

He has not played since March last year, when he was struck by a bouncer,

Pucovski. FILE PHOTO

and said on Tuesday he was calling time on playing cricket.

"It can be quite difficult to see how can I get out to play professional sport again when I'm struggling to live my life how I want to," he said.

"I just don't want to risk doing any more damage to my brain than I've already done."

Stead steps down as NZ white-ball coach

Agence France-Presse
WELLINGTON

Gary Stead announced on Tuesday that he will step down as New Zealand's white-ball cricket coach and is considering his future with the Test team.

The 53-year-old, who has been in charge of all three formats since taking over from Mike Hesson in 2018, said he wanted to spend more time at home.

"I'm looking forward to getting away from touring life for a while and having a think about my future," he said, pointing to a hectic calendar in the last six months that saw "relatively non-stop cricket".

Stead said he was evaluating his options, "but still feel I have coaching left in me, albeit not as head coach across all formats."

Harmanpreet returns to lead India in ODI tri-series in Sri Lanka

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Harmanpreet Kaur returned as India women's team captain for the ODI tri-series in Sri Lanka starting later this month after she was rested for the home series against Ireland in January.

The BCCI women's selection committee picked a 15-member squad with Smriti Mandhana as Harmanpreet's deputy for the April 27 to May 11 tournament, which will also involve South Africa besides hosts Sri Lanka.

India will face Sri Lanka in the opener on April 27. The teams will play four matches each in double round-robin league event.

The top two teams will qualify for the final which will be played on May 11.

All the matches will be played at the R. Premadasa Stadium in Colombo. Pacers Renuka Singh Thakur and Titas Sadhu have been injured and were not considered for selection.

The squad: Harmanpreet Kaur (Capt.), Smriti Mandhana (Vice-Capt.), Pratika Rawal, Harleen Deol, Jemimah Rodrigues, Richa Ghosh (wk), Yastika Bhatia (wk), Deepti Sharma, Amanjot Kaur, Kashvee Gautam, Sneh Rana, Arundhati Reddy, Tejal Hasabnis, Sree Charani and Shuchi Upadhyay.

Pucovski's premature goodbye has lessons for cricket

BETWEEN WICKETS
Suresh Menon

In the middle of the IPL, the retirement of a one-Test player from distant shores might not have the impact it ought to. Will Pucovski was 26 last year when he suffered his 13th concussion. A medical panel advised retirement. He hasn't played since, and now has formally retired.

There is sadness in a talent denied the chance to bloom. Part of the charm of sport lies in tracking the progress of a player from early promise to inevitable fulfilment.

Pucovski's father has Czech roots and emigrated to Australia from Serbia. But the player is famous not just for his romantic origins. In 2019 he was, by all accounts, on the cusp of greatness. On his debut, against India two years later, he made 62, opening with David Warner in Sydney.

To be concussed 13 times might suggest a flaw in technique. Ian Chappell, former Australian captain said some years ago, "his technique against the short ball is sub-standard." Tim Paine, who led in Pucovski's Test thought he was merely unfortunate.

Harvey Hosein was 25 and on first class debut had eleven victims as wicket-keeper.

He retired after four concussions. He explained how unease and anxiety would collide as training or a match approached. "Harvey acted professionally," said his Derbyshire chief executive.

Pukovski's mental struggles are well recorded. "Walking around the house was a struggle," he said, "My fiancée was annoyed because I didn't contribute to chores. I was sleeping a lot."

Inner struggles
The inner struggles of a player are difficult for an outsider to fully comprehend. Language fails, efforts at precision and specificity fall short. A Stanford University study in 2019 said, "Concussion is a big, vague term and we need to start breaking it down."

In their book *Crickonomics:The Anatomy of Modern Cricket*, authors Stefan Szymanski and Tim Wigmore speak of cricket's concussion crisis. Three significant conclusions emerge from the studies quoted: one, there's so much we don't know about concussion, especially its long-term effects.

Two, concussions are systematically under-reported. And three, since the advent of the helmet a lot more people are being hit on the head.

This last is easily explained. Batters take fast bowling head-on (literally), confident that protected body parts will not be affected by poor technique. Very few go back-and-across to allow the bouncer to sail by harmlessly, duck under it or hook it naturally.

There is too the fact that fast bowlers – none of whom wishes to physically injure anyone – bowl more aggressively at the sight of a helmet.

In 2017, a study examined the brains of 111 NFL players; 110 of them showed signs of the degenerative disease CTE (chronic traumatic encephalopathy).

Despite the terrible cases of Philip Hughes and Raman Lamba, deaths in cricket as a result of being hit on the head are rare. But there is no guarantee, as Crickonomics says, that "bouncers will not have catastrophic repercussions later in life."

A study of 197 head impacts on 130 players in elite men's and women's cricket between 2014 and 2019, indicated the likelihood of players suffering concussion when struck on the helmet could be reduced. New helmet standards reduced chances of a serious head or neck injury, it felt, but may have increased concussion risks because of less "give".

All sport is involved in a continuous battle to make itself safe for its practitioners, amateur, professional and casual. Cricket's concussion substitute rule is an example of common sense triumphing, pushed by scientific data.

Pucovski, an articulate man with interests beyond cricket, said at his retirement, "In the couple of months post the last concussion I struggled to get anything done. The first few months were horrendous, but things didn't leave me. When you have symptoms for over a year –- and I've had others for numerous years – it is difficult to see how I can play professional sport again when I'm struggling to live my life how I want to. I just don't want to risk doing any more damage to my brain than I've already done."

Any athlete's forced goodbye is heart-breaking. Pucovski's must lead to more investment in research and education. One-size-fits-all doesn't work.

Justin Langer also had 13 concussions. But he played 105 Tests.